MARVEL
MYSTERY COMICS
MARCH
NO. 53
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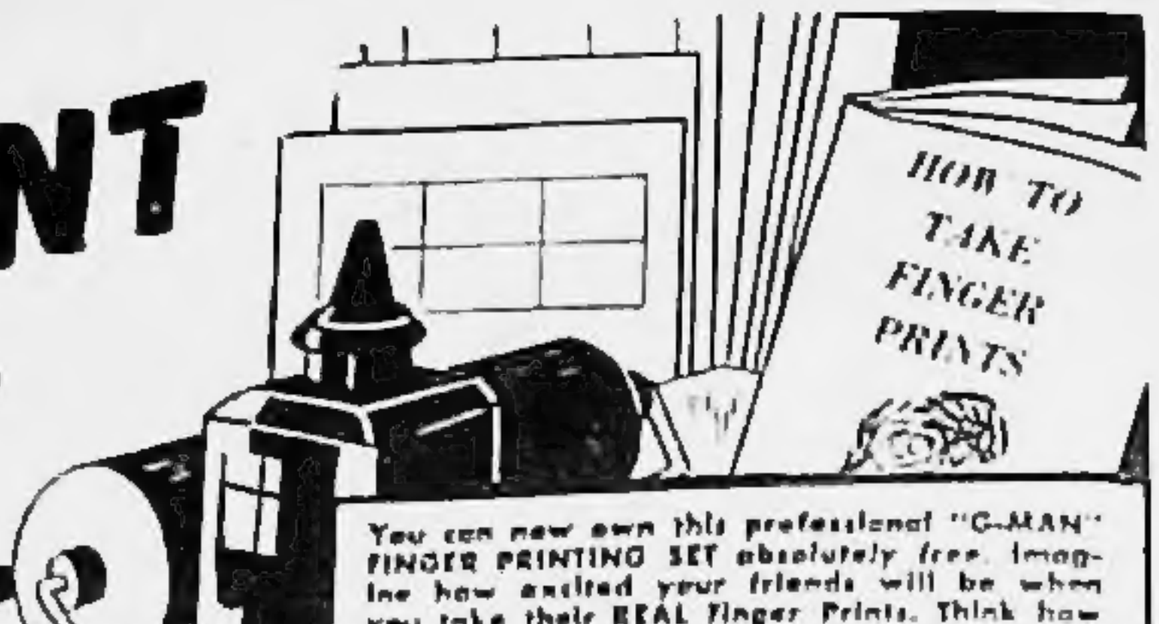

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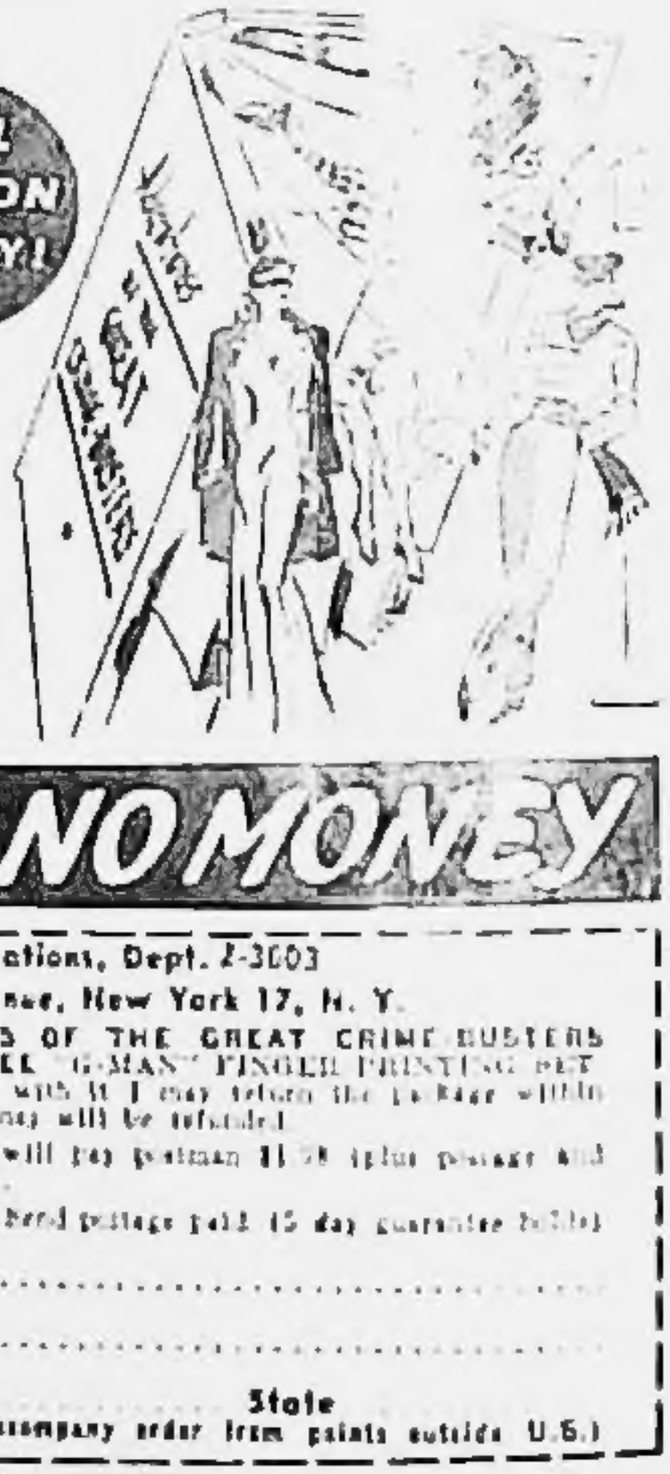

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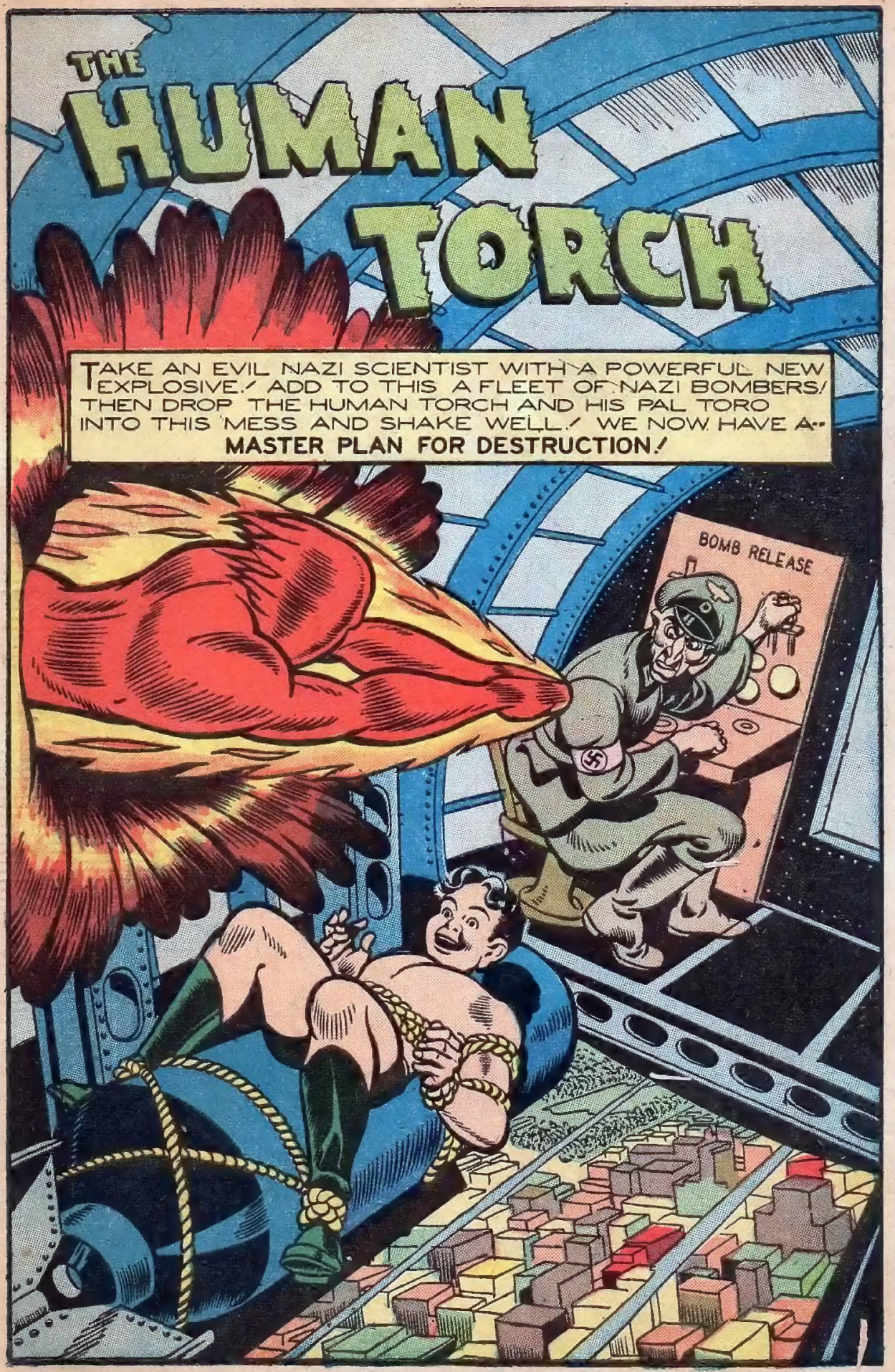

THE HUMAN TORCH
TAKE AN EVIL NAZI SCIENTIST WITH A POWERFUL NEW EXPLOSIVE! ADD TO THIS A FLEET OF NAZI BOMBERS! THEN DROP THE HUMAN TORCH AND HIS PAL TORO INTO THIS MESS AND SHAKE WELL! WE NOW HAVE A--
MASTER PLAN FOR DESTRUCTION!
BOMB RELEASE

OUR STORY OPENS IN THE APARTMENT OF TORCH AND TORO, WHERE A HOT GAME OF HORSE-SHOES IS UNDER-WAY. AND AS ONLY THE FLAMING TWO-SOME CAN PLAY IT.!
YOU LUCKY STIFF A RINGER.! WELL, I'LL JUST HAVE TO TOP IT.!
AIR-RRREI
AN AIR-RAID DRILL.! OUT WITH THE LIGHTS.! I'LL PULL THE DRAPES.!
BUT A MILE AWAY IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT CREW.....
WHOSE IS IT, SIR.?
A NAZI.! FIRE AT WILL.!
BUT
GOSH.! HALF THE TOWN'S GONE UP.!
2

-AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT----
OOPH! IF THIS IS A PRACTISE RAID, IT SURE IS REALISTIC!
THIS IS NO DRILL, KID! IT'S THE REAL THING!
BOOM
WHEW..! IT'S OVER! THERE MUST HAVE BEEN--! O'H! O'H! THE PHONE!
NEVER MIND! I'LL GET IT!
HELLO, TORCH SPEAKING! O'H, COLONEL CORKY! WHAT? IT CAN'T BE! YES! IMMEDIATELY--
SECONDS LATER
WHAT DOES CHIEF OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE WANT OF US, TORCH?
HE'S GOT SOMETHING HOT FOR US, KID!
COLONEL CORKY ESCORTS THE FLAMING DUO TO A BALCONY ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE BUILDING, WHICH OVERLOOKS A SCENE OF UTTER DEVASTATION!
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU, CHIEF?
PLENTY! BUT FIRST I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING! LOOK
GOOD LORD! IT MUST HAVE TAKEN A THOUSAND BOMBS TO DO THAT--

THAT'S THE MOST TRAGIC PART ABOUT IT, TORCH! IT ONLY TOOK ONE...BOMB!
WHAT? BUT HOW?
THE COLONEL EXPLAINS..
A NEW KIND OF EXPLOSIVE! WE'VE HAD A REPORT ON IT, BUT HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CHECK! WELL, NOW WE KNOW! I BELIEVE THIS ATTACK IS MERELY A PRELUDE TO A MASS RAID! IT MUST BE STOPPED!
AND YOU WANT US TO STOP IT! RIGHT?
EXACTLY! OUR COUNTER SPY REPORTS SHOW THAT THIS NEW EXPLOSIVE IS MADE IN A MINE IN LWOW, POLAND.
LWOW
WE'LL DO IT, SIR! YOU CAN DEPEND ON THAT!
POLAND, EH! WELL! WELL! THAT'S ONE COUNTRY WE HAVEN'T SEEN!
MINUTES LATER-
SO-LONG, OLD GIRL! WE'LL BE SEEING YOU!
MISS LIBERTY IS A GREAT GIRL! THE SYMBOL OF OUR COUNTRY! FREEDOM AND EQUALITY FOR ALL! AND THE CONTINUATION OF THAT SYMBOL, RESTS ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR MISSION!
SEVERAL HOURS LATER, OFF THE IRISH COAST!
AND HE'S DIVING ON THAT TROOP-SHIP! COME ON! WE'LL DO A LITTLE DIVE BOMBING OURSELVES!
OH, THE WEARING OF THE GREEN! HEY, TORCH! A NAZI STUKA--
4

THE PAIR GO INTO A FLAMING DIVE AS THE NAZI PLANE ~~
THE BOMB, TORCH! IT'S HEADING FOR THE SHIP!
TAKE CARE OF THAT NAZI! I'LL GET THE BOMB!
THE HUMAN TORCH STREAKS FOR THE BOMB, AND ~~
GOT IT! AND JUST IN TIME!
MEANWHILE, TORO IS HAVING HIS FUN!
DIE! DIE! DIE!
THAT'S JUST WHAT~~
YOU'RE GOING TO, DO~~!
BOOM!
AUUGH!
THE GRATEFUL TROOPS WAVE THEIR THANKS AS THE PAIR ZOOM OVER THE RESCUED VESSEL!
GOOD LUCK, FELLOWS!
I'M WARMING UP FOR THE MAIN BOUT, TORCH! NAZIS! HERE WE COME!
5

MEANWHILE, DEEP IN THE HEART OF AN ABANDONED SALT MINE IN POLAND, GENERAL BLAUHEIM, LUFTWAFFE COMMANDER, LISTENS EAGERLY TO THE EVIL NAZI SCIENTIST VON FLEAGLE./
THE EXPLOSIVE IS READY./ DER REST IS UP TO YOU./ HA / HA./ HOW I'D LIKE TO GO WITH YOU TONIGHT / AH./ WHAT A SENSATION, KILLING IS /
GOOT./ I VILL HAFF THE SHIPS FUELED AND LOADED./ ACH./ WHAT RUIN WE VILL SPREAD IN AMERIKA./ WHAT LIVES WILL BE SNUFFED OUT BY YOUR MASTERPIECE./
IT ISS THE TORCH./ QUICK./ YOU FOOLS/ MAN THE VACUUM MACHINE / STRING THE NETS./ HURRY./
THE TORCH? HE VILL SPOIL OUR PLANS./ VE MUST KILL HIM/
A HUNDRED MILES TO THE WEST./ A NAZI PLANE SPOTTER-
VAS ISS, HANS?
IT ISS THE TWO, VON FLEAGLE WARNED US OF./ WE MUST REPORT TO HIM, AT ONCE./
AND A FEW MILES AWAY------
THERE'S THE AIRPORT, TORCH/
RIGHT/ THE MINE ENTRANCE SHOULD BE NEAR IT./ WE WILL DIVE LOW AND TRY TO LOCATE IT./
WHILE BELOW THEM, VON FLEAGLE PREPARES TO CLOSE THE JAWS OF THE TRAP./
THEY'RE DIVING LOW! SET IT FOR THREE HUNDRED FEET./
YA / HERR FLEAGLE /

THE UN-SUSPECTING DUO, FLAME INTO THE GIANT AIR-POCKET THAT THE HUGE VACUUM MACHINE HAS CREATED AND THE PAIR ARE DRAWN EARTH-WARD UNCONCIOUS -----

TORCH! MY FLAMES OUT! I C-CAN'T B-BREATH--AN A-A-AIR-POCKET! I-I-I-I----

MAYBE WE CAN RIDE IT OUT! A T-TRAP! G-GOT T-T-TO F-FLAME ON! GOT T-TO G-GET A-A-A-AI--R-----!

BUT-

HAH, THEY ARE UNCONCIOUS! WE HAVE THEM!

QUICK! TO THE MINE WITH THEM! THEY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO RECOVER!

THE HELPLESS PAIR ARE LIFTED FROM THE NET, AND CARRIED PAST GEN. BLAUHIEMS AIR-FLEET, TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE MINE!

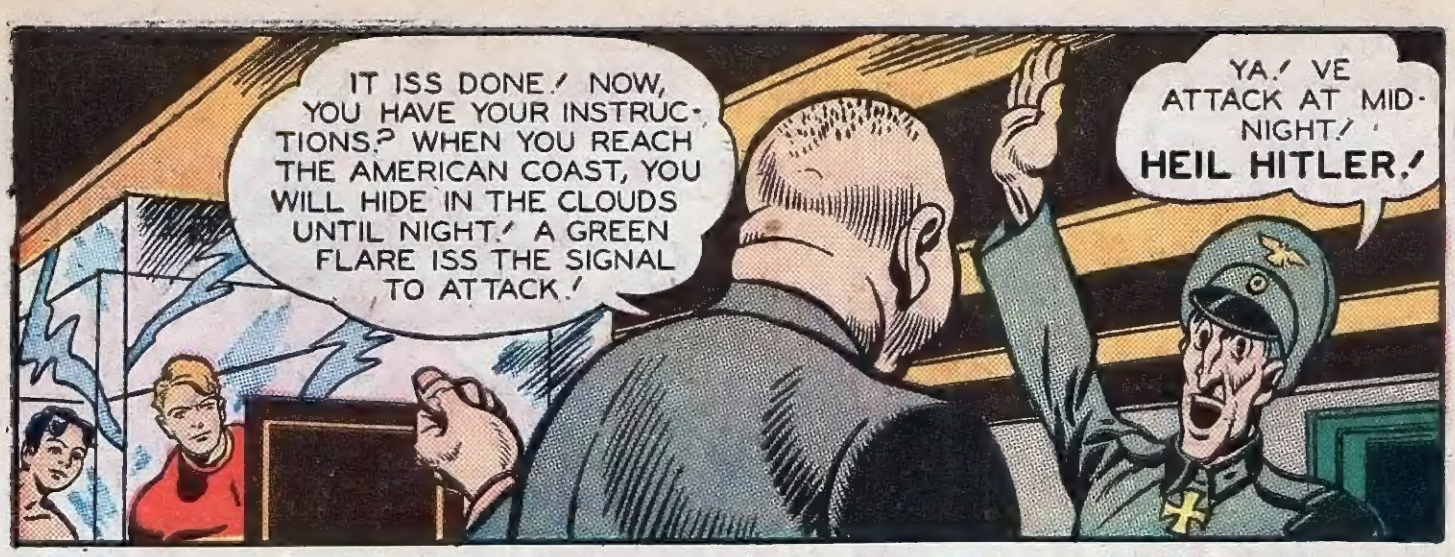
NOW TO PLACE THEM IN THE LITTLE COFFIN, I HAVE DESIGNED FOR THEM! THEN WE MAY GO AHEAD MIT THE PLAN TO BOMB AMERIKA!

YA! WE LEAVE IN AN HOUR! THIS TIME TOMORROW NIGHT THE VAUNTED YANKEE WAR INDUSTRIES VILL BE A BLOODY MESS!

TORCH AND TORO ARE THEN PLACED IN AN AIR-TIGHT, FIRE-PROOF CHAMBER OF PURE SALT!

THE ONE PIG IS COMING TO! NOW, TO SEAL THE DOOR! HAH! I HAVE LEFT THEM A LITTLE AIR, THAT THEY MIGHT HEAR THE SOUND OF YOUR PLANES TAKING OFF TO BOMB AMERIKA-BEFORE THEY DIE!

ACH! WHAT EXQUISITE IDEAS FOR TORTURE YOU HAVE, VON FLEAGLE! YOU ARE A TRUE NAZI!


IT ISS DONE.! NOW, YOU HAVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.? WHEN YOU REACH THE AMERICAN COAST, YOU WILL HIDE IN THE CLOUDS UNTIL NIGHT.! A GREEN FLARE ISS THE SIGNAL TO ATTACK.!
YA.! VE ATTACK AT MIDNIGHT.! HEIL HITLER.!

AND WITHIN THE TOMB, TORCH AND TORO----

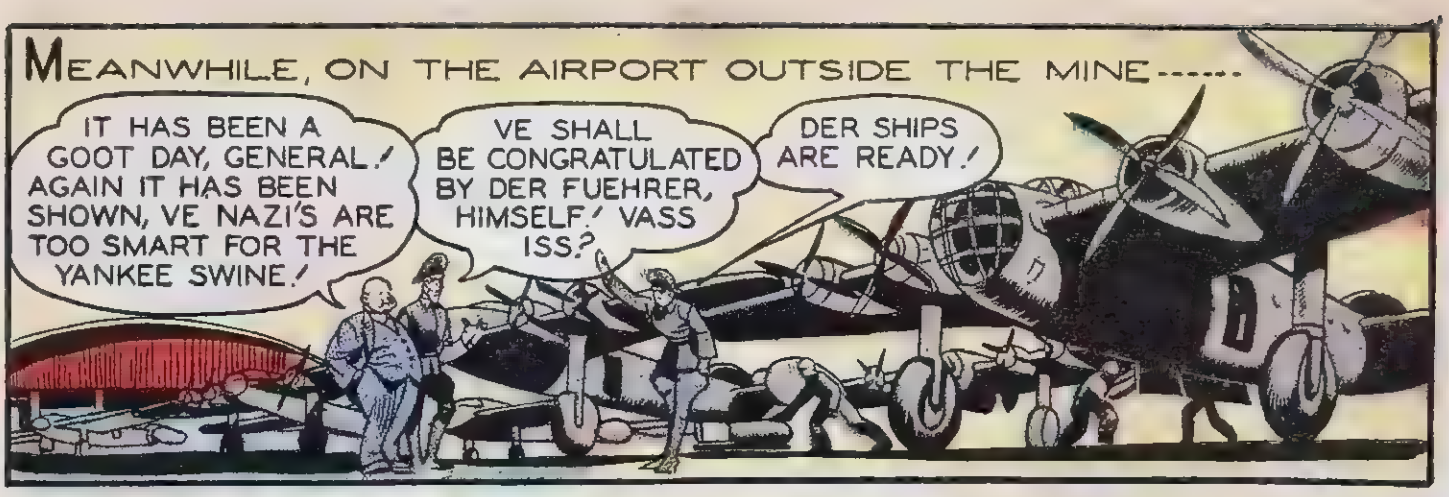
DID YOU HEAR THAT, TORCH.? THEY ARE ATTACKING TONIGHT.! WE'VE FAILED.!
DON'T SAY IT.! TOO MUCH DEPENDS ON US.! WE MUST FIND A WAY OUT.! WE MUST-----

BUT VON FLEAGLE HAS BUILT, WITH TRUE NAZI THOROUGHNESS.!

TORCH HITS ON A DARING PLAN----

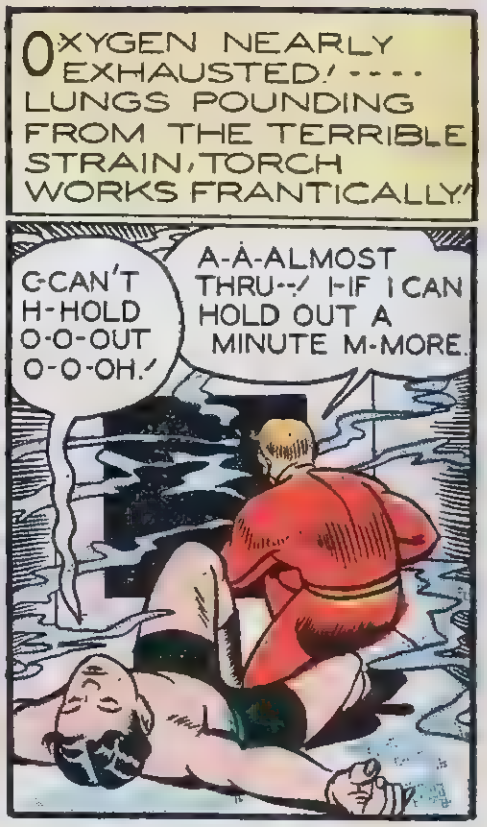
YOU KNOW ME, TORCH.! BUT I CAN'T SEE IT.! VON FLEAGLE DIDN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES WHEN HE BUILT THIS.!
HE MADE ONE; HE LEFT US A LITTLE AIR.! IF I ALLOW THE END OF ONE FINGER TO FLAME,..

AS THE TINY FLAME, EATS SLOWLY AT THE EIGHT-INCH-THICK STEEL DOOR, TWO LIVES HANG BY A THREAD.! FOR IN THAT TINY FLAME, LIES THEIR FATE.! CAN IT CUT THRU THE DOOR, BEFORE IT EXHAUSTS THEIR PRECIOUS SUPPLY OF OXYGEN.?


MEANWHILE, ON THE AIRPORT OUTSIDE THE MINE------
IT HAS BEEN A GOOT DAY, GENERAL! AGAIN IT HAS BEEN SHOWN, VE NAZI'S ARE TOO SMART FOR THE YANKEE SWINE!
VE SHALL BE CONGRATULATED BY DER FUEHRER, HIMSELF! VASS ISS?
DER SHIPS ARE READY!

THE NAZI BOMBERS TAKE TO THE AIR WITH THEIR LETHAL LOADS
KILL! THE YANKEE PIGS! KILL! KILL! KILL!

AND AT THE SAME MOMENT, TORCH RACES GRIMLY AGAINST TIME!
MOTORS!! THAT'S BLAUHEIM'S FLEET TAKING OFF! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY
HURRY! I CAN'T BREATH!


OXYGEN NEARLY EXHAUSTED!---- LUNGS POUNDING FROM THE TERRIBLE STRAIN, TORCH WORKS FRANTICALLY!
C-CAN'T H-HOLD O-O-OUT O-O-OH!
A-A-ALMOST THRU--! I-IF I CAN HOLD OUT A MINUTE M-MORE.

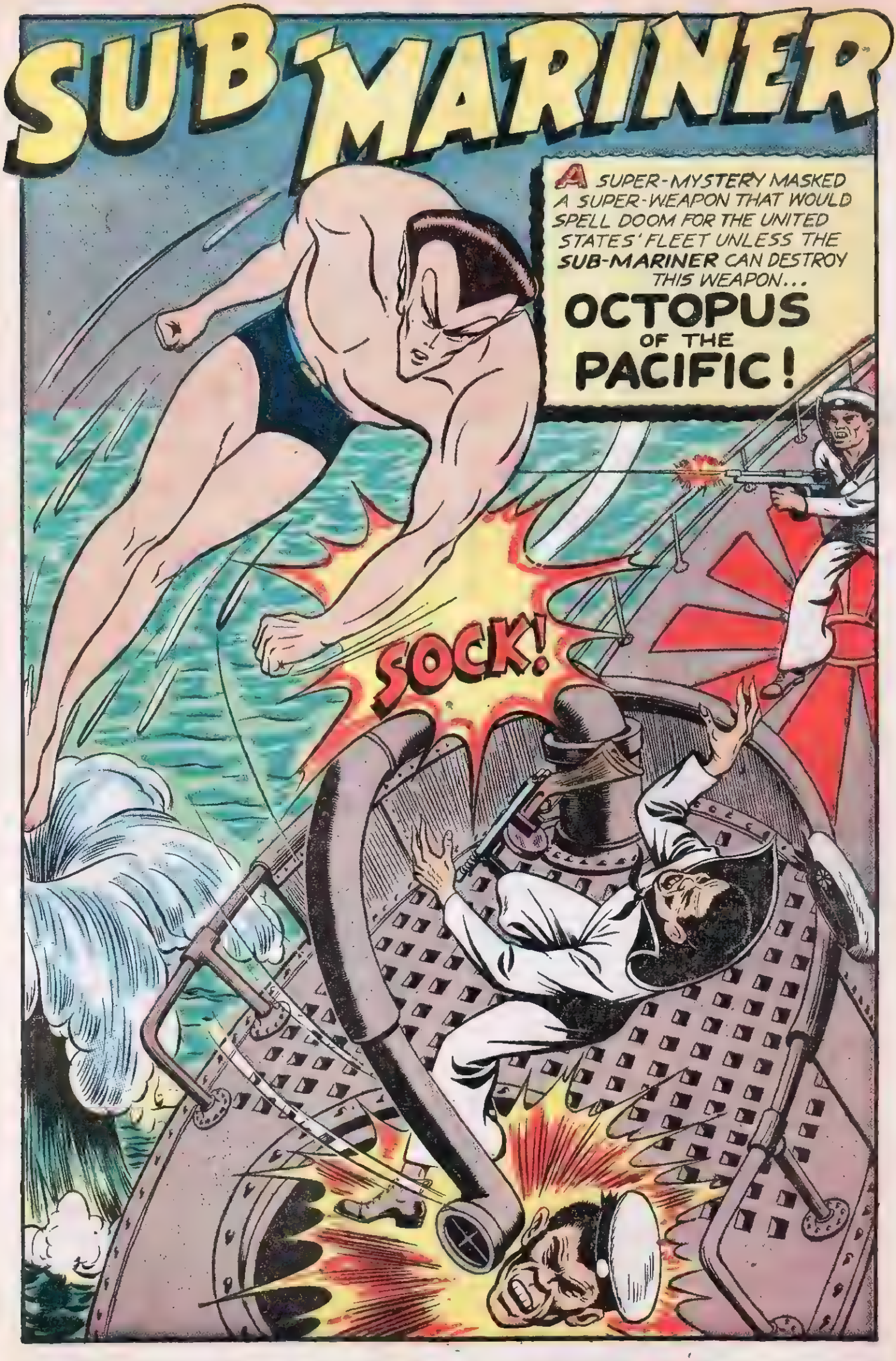
HA-A-A MADE IT---

THE AIR, LEAKING THRU THE HOLE QUICKLY REVIVES THE PAIR AND---
COME-ON, KID! WE'RE OUT TO GET VON FLEAGLE!
AM I GOING TO SINGE THAT MONKEY!

WHILE VON FLEAGLE, UNAWARE OF TORCH AND TORO'S ESCAPE-
STACK THE BAGS OF POWDER AGAINST THE VALL, UNTIL MY RETURN! I WANT TO SEE HOW MY CHARGES ARE GETT---! WHAT?
WE'RE DOING ALL RIGHT, VON FLEAGLE!
YES! WHICH IS SOMETHING YOU WON'T BE DOING SHORTLY!
BUT.. VON FLEAGLE, LIKE ALL NAZIS IS A COWARD...
DON'T LET THEM GET ME! KILL THEM! KILL THEM!
STRIKE ONE!
FLAME OFF, WE WANT VON FLEAGLE ALIVE!
BUT THE NAZI TROOPS FORM A BARRIER TO VON FLEAGLE!
NOW GET THEM! THEY'VE FLAMED OFF!
ALL YOU'LL GET IS A HEADACHE!
MEANWHILE, VON FLEAGLE, HIS MEN CUT DOWN BY THE BATTLING DUO, DRAWS ONE LAST CARD---
DIE, YOU FOOL! DIE!
LOOK OUT TORCH!
TORO SPRINGS INTO QUICK ACTION WITH A FIREBALL AS VON FLEAGLE.....
OW!
LOSES.....
THAT EVENS THE THE SCORE WITH HIM, TORCH!
YES! AND NOW AFTER BLAUHEIM! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM BEFORE THEY DROP THOSE BOMBS! BUT FIRST WE WILL DESTROY THIS BASE!
TORCH TOSSES A FLAMING FIREBALL INTO A PILE OF WASTE AND--
WE'LL BLOW IT UP WITH THEIR OWN POWDER! COME ON, KID! WE'LL JUST ABOUT MAKE IT!

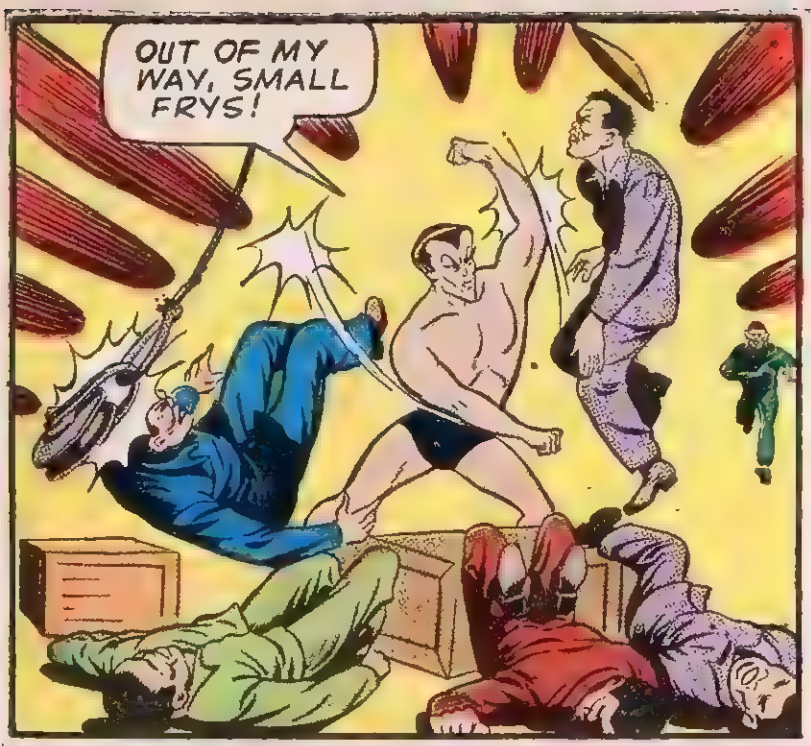
SECONDS LATER.
WOW.! THE FLAME'S REACHED THE POWDER.! AND THERE GOES THE AIRFIELD TOO.!
WE'RE FINISHED HERE, KID.! NOW FOR BLAUHEIM AND HIS BOMBERS.! IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF HOURS BEFORE THEY STRIKE.!
LATER, OFF THE AMERICAN COAST...
HOW ARE WE GOING TO FIND THOSE RATS, TORCH? THEY'LL BE HIDDEN IN THESE CLOUDS.!
BLAUHEIM'S SIGNAL FOR ATTACK IS A GREEN ROCKET.! WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE ON SEEING IT.!
WHY A ROCKET? WHY DON'T THEY USE RADIO?
IT WOULD GIVE THEIR POSITION AWAY TO AMERICAN LISTENING POSTS, LET'S GET ABOVE THESE CLOUDS.! MAYBE WE CAN SPOT THEM.!
AND HIDDEN IN THE CLOUDS NOT FAR AWAY--
ONE SECOND TO GO.! PREPARE GUNS.! OPEN BOMB-BAY.!
THE TIME IS ZERO HOUR.! BLAUHEIM GIVES THE SIGNAL TO ATTACK.!
NOW, STRIKE.! FOR FATHERLAND, AND FUEHRER.!
SSS
BUT
IT'S TIME.! AND I DON'T SEE A---
THAT'S THEIR SIGNAL NO TIME TO LOSE.!
11

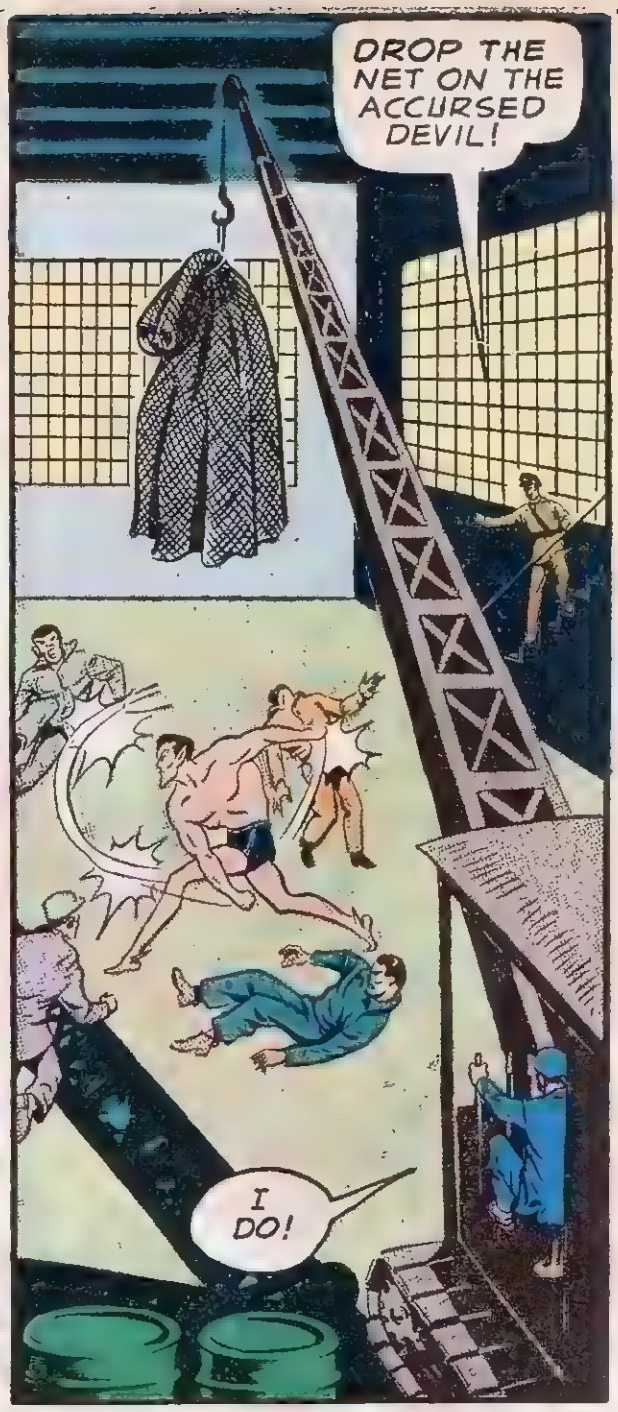
AND
THEY'RE BELOW, US! LET'S GET THEM!
LIKE TWO FLAMING THUNDERBOLTS, THE PAIR BURST UPON THE NAZI BOMBING FLEET. AND IN THE FLAG-SHIP OF THE FLEET GEN BLAUHEIM
THOSE YANKEE SWINE! IN MINUTES THEY HAVE DESTROYED WHAT TOOK US MONTHS TO PLAN. BUT ALL IS NOT LOST. IF I CAN GET AWAY.
AS THE GIANT SHIP, WITH BLAUHEIM AT THE CONTROLS, WINGS ITS WAY FOR A CLOUD BANK, TORCH....
THE GENERAL IS TAKING A POWDER, TORCH!
'GUESS AGAIN.' HE'S MINE. YOU TAKE CARE OF THE REST!
THE GENERAL MEETS A GRIM, BUT JUST, FATE.
NO! NO! A-A-A-A-AGH..
THOSE WHO LIVE BY FIRE DIE BY FIRE. SO LONG YOU RAT!
SOON AFTER, IN THE OFFICE OF COL CORKY, CHIEF OF G-2
YOUR COUNTRY CAN NEVER REPAY YOU FOR THE DANGEROUS TASK YOU HAVE PERFORMED. ALL I CAN SAY IS THANK YOU.
I'M SURE NO MAN CAN ASK MORE THAN TO LIVE UNDER A FREE FLAG, IN A FREE COUNTRY.
YOU CAN SAY THAT, AGAIN.
12


SUB-MARINER
A SUPER-MYSTERY MASKED A SUPER-WEAPON THAT WOULD SPELL DOOM FOR THE UNITED STATES' FLEET UNLESS THE SUB-MARINER CAN DESTROY THIS WEAPON...
OCTOPUS OF THE PACIFIC!
SOCK!

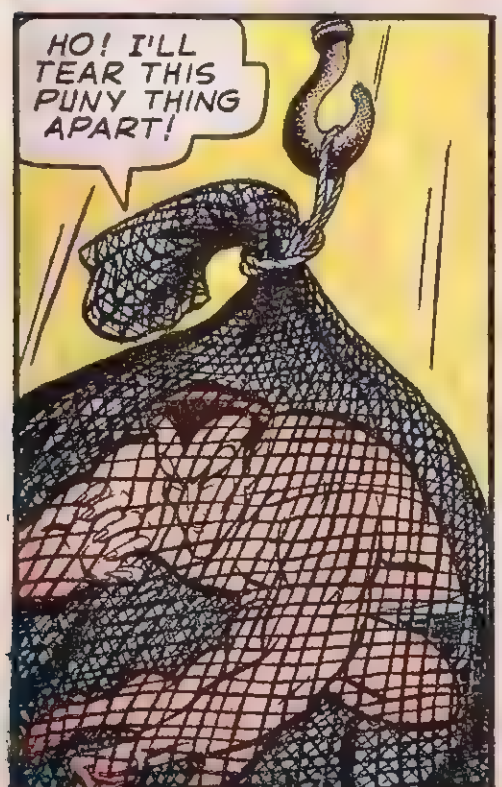
TWO MILES OFF THE COASTAL CITY OF KOBE JAPAN...
AMERICAN NAVAL INTELLIGENCE WANTS ME TO INVESTIGATE SOME MYSTERIOUS PROJECT AT THE KOBE SHIPYARDS! WHAT'S BOTHERING ME IS, WHAT IS IT?
THE SUB-MARINER REACHES SHORE UNNOTICED!
THERE'S THE SHIPYARD CLOSED TIGHTER THAN A BLOW-FISH! I MUST GET INSIDE!
THOSE WORKERS.... THEY GIVE ME AN IDEA....!
4
PASSING JAP WORKER IS PRINCE NAMOR'S VICTIM....
C'MERE, SAVANT!
THIS WILL GIVE YOU PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY TO DREAM OF YOUR HONORABLE ANCESTORS!
POW!
THIS GET-UP AND THAT GUY'S PASS SHOULD SEE ME THROUGH THE ENTRANCE!

ADDING A LITTLE WATER COLOR TO HIS SKIN, SUB-MARINER HAS NO TROUBLE GAINING ADMITTANCE!
GOOD! I PASSED WITHOUT SUSPICION! NOW TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS MYSTERY IS ALL ABOUT!
INSIDE, NAMOR GASPS AS HE VIEWS THE SECRET JAPANESE NAVAL PROJECT!
HOLY HADDOCK! A SUPER-SUB BATTLESHIP! IT MUST BE OVER A THOUSAND FEET LONG!
I MUST WARN THE AMERICAN NAVAL FORCES BEFORE THIS WEAPON IS LAUNCHED... THEN I'LL TRY TO DESTROY IT!
SUDDENLY....
WATCH OUT!
HEY, MY MAKEUP!
SO SOLLY.... OHHH!... IT'S SUB-MARINER!
DARN FOOL!
HELP!! SUB-MARINER! HE'S HERE!


OUT OF MY WAY, SMALL FRYS!


DROP THE NET ON THE ACCURSED DEVIL!
I DO!

PRINCE NAMOR BATTLES ON UNAWARE OF THE STEEL NET COMING DOWN ON HIM!
POW!


HO! I'LL TEAR THIS PUNY THING APART!

QUICK! GIVE HIM THE GAS BEFORE HE GETS OUT!
HAH! YOU SLEEP LIKE A DOCILE LAMB, SUB-MARINER!
HSSSS
GAS

THE CANNY ADMIRAL FOOTSU IS SUMMONED....
NICE WORK, LIEUTENANT SODU! HAVE HIM PUT IN DUNGEON! AFTER OUR FIRST VICTORY WITH OUR SUPER-SUB AGAINST THE AMERICAN FLEET, WE EXECUTE HIM!
THANK YOU, HONORABLE ADMIRAL!

SOMETIME LATER...SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC...
NO SIGN OF THE JAPANESE FLEET, YET, COMMANDER?
NOT YET, ADMIRAL! ...HOWEVER, OUR SCOUT PLANES ARE SOARING THIS AREA THOROUGHLY....
A MESSAGE FROM THE RADIO ROOM....
MESSAGE FROM OUR OBSERVATION PLANE, SIR! JAP FLEET SIGHTED! POSITION INDICATED ON MESSAGE!
VERY GOOD!
FULL SPEED AHEAD! ALL MEN AT BATTLE STATIONS... PROCEED TO ENGAGE ENEMY!
AT THAT VERY MOMENT, PRINCE NAMOR IS GOING THROUGH A TERRIFYING ORDEAL...
WHAT A FOOL I WAS... NOW THEY'RE BAKING THE MOISTURE OUT OF MY BODY...! I W-WON'T HAVE STRENGTH ENOUGH TO CRAWL! OHHH!
LIEUTENANT SADU ENTERS TO TAUNT THE LAGGING SUB-MARINER....
HOW IS HELPLESS ONE? ALREADY WE HAVE TRICKED AMERICANS WITH FALSE MESSAGE ON POSITION OF OUR IMPERIAL FLEET! WHEN THEY ARRIVE, WE SHALL HAVE AMAZING SURRISE IN STORE... OUR SUPER-SUB!
BUT PRINCE NAMOR DOES NOT ANSWER!
HO! HE HAS SUCCUMBED TO THE HEAT... TAKE HIM DOWN... PUT HIM IN A WATERTIGHT CELL...!
YES, HONORABLE ONE!

HE IS A VERY HEAVY ONE!
WHEN WE GET THROUGH WITH THE EXECUTION, HE WON'T WEIGH ANYTHING
OH.... OH.... WATER... WATER, IF I CAN ONLY...
USING THE LAST BIT OF HIS STRENGTH, NAMOR MAKES A SUCCESSFUL BREAK FOR WATER!
AH! I FEEL MY STRENGTH PUSHING BACK ANEW!
BLOW HIS HEAD OFF!
TRY BLOWING SOME STEAM OFF!
POW!
CRACK!
CLOSE THE GATE OR HE'LL ESCAPE!
YIPES! THIS IS WORSE THAN TRYING TO MAKE A TRAIN!
IRON BARS DO NOT A PRISON MAKE!
THE PLUCKY SUB-MARINER DODGES A HAIL OF BULLETS AS HE DASHES OUT OF THE PRISON!
6

SO LONG, YOU SONS OF HIROHITO!
MEANWHILE, THE AMERICAN FLEET ARRIVES NEAR THEIR RENDEZVOUS...
STRANGE! NO ENEMY ACTIVITY HERE!
AND ABOARD THE FLAGSHIP....
I'M AFRAID THAT REPORT WAS INCORRECT!
NO! WAIT....
YE GADS! IT'S A SUB... A SUPER-SUBMARINE!! IT'S TREMENDOUS!
AND FLYING THE JAP COLORS! GOOD GOSH!

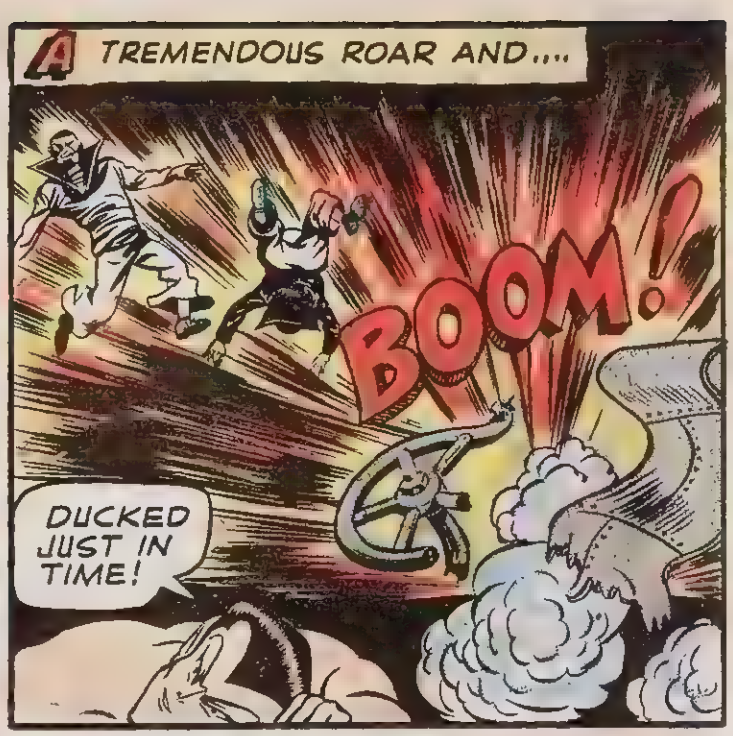
WITHOUT WASTING A SECOND, ADMIRAL FOOTSU GIVES THE ORDER.....
OPEN FIRE WITH ALL GUNS! AND BLAST THE ACCURSED AMERICANS OUT OF THE WATER!
FROM ONE OF ITS TURRETS, FIFTY TONS OF STEEL AND EXPLOSIVES ARE HURLED FORTH ON THE FIRST SALVO AND SEVERAL AMERICAN UNITS ARE CAUGHT IN THE RESULTING INFERNO!
WE CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS! OUR GUNS SEEM TO HAVE NO EFFECT ON THEIR SUB!
KEEP FIRING UNTIL WE SINK EVERY SHIP!
HAH! HO! WE HAVE SUNK THREE OF THEM ALREADY... WE DESTROY THE WHOLE FLEET WITHIN THE HOUR!
HOWEVER, AT THIS MOMENT, NOT MANY MILES AWAY, PRINCE NAMOR STREAKS THROUGH THE PACIFIC WATERS.
GOOD GRIEF! THE AMERICAN FLEET MUST BE IN THE TRAP! I HEAR GUNFIRE! OUT OF MY WAY, FISH!

THE SEA PRINCE COMES UPON A NAVAL DISASTER....
HOLY SMOKES! THE AMERICANS ARE HELPLESS AGAINST THIS NAVAL JUGGERNAUT!
THE AMERICAN ADMIRAL MAKES A DECISION...
IT'S SHEER SUICIDE TO STAY HERE... OUR SHELLS CANNOT PIERCE THEIR ARMOUR... SUMMON A DISENGAGEMENT FROM THE ENEMY! WE MUST WITHDRAW!
AYE, AYE, SIR!
INFIDELS!... COWARDS! THEY WITHDRAW... WE CAN NOT PURSUE THEM... SUPER-SUB WAS NOT BUILT FOR SPEED... HAW! BUT WE RULE PACIFIC FROM NOW ON!
AND PRINCE NAMOR...
AH! THE AMERICANS HAVE DONE THE SENSIBLE THING... THEY'RE WITHDRAWING... THAT OUGHT TO GIVE ME A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING UNHAMPERED! BUT HOW WILL I GET INSIDE THIS TUB?
I'VE GOT IT! THE BALLAST TANKS! I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SWIM INTO THE BALLAST TANK OPENING!
HEY! THEY'RE SUBMERGING... I'M UNDER THEM, TOO!
9

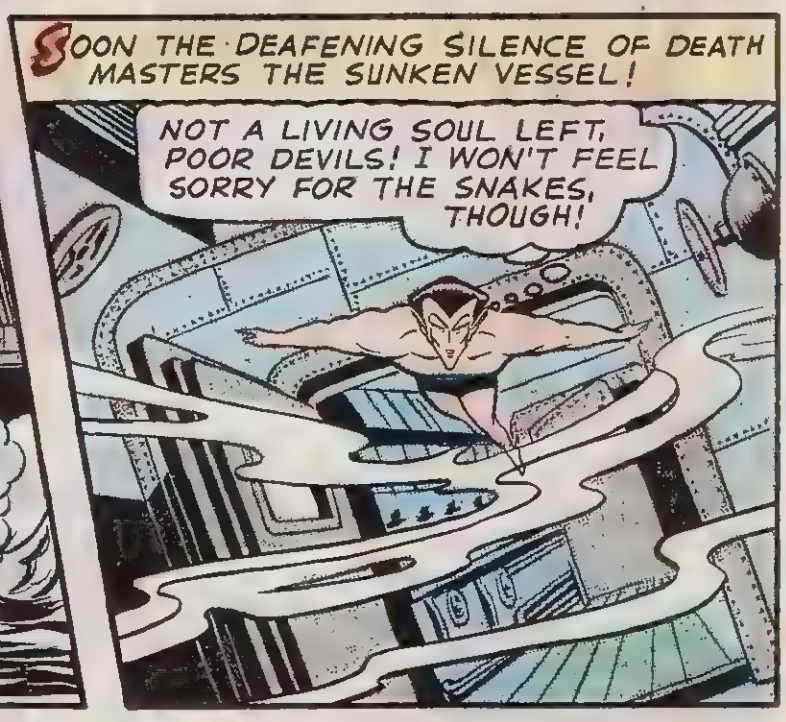
HOLY COW! I'M CAUGHT IN A TERRIFIC SUCTION!
YEOW! WHAT A BREAK... I'M BEING PULLED RIGHT INTO THE BALLAST TANK!
INSIDE THE BALLAST TANK....
WHAT LUCK! THERE'S AN EMERGENCY BALLAST TANK HATCH... NOW TO GIVE THE JAPPIES INSIDE SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
NAMOR TAPS A RYTHMIC ROLL ON THE HATCHWAY DOOR!
THEY'LL PROBABLY WONDER, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.... I HOPE!
TAP-TAP!
TAP-TAP-TAP!
TAP-TAP-TAP!
TAP-TAP-TAP!
TAP-TAP!
INSIDE, ABOVE...
STRANGE TAPPING NOISE COMING FROM BALLAST TANK!
MAYBE TIME BOMB... CALL HONORABLE ADMIRAL FOOTSU DOWN!
ADMIRAL FOOTSU'S ORIENTAL CURIOSITY GETS THE BETTER OF HIM!
EMPTY BALLAST TANK AND OPEN HATCH DOOR!
IT IS DONE SO!
CAGELY THE JAPS OPEN THE HATCH....
I SEE NOTHING BUT DARKNESS WITHIN!

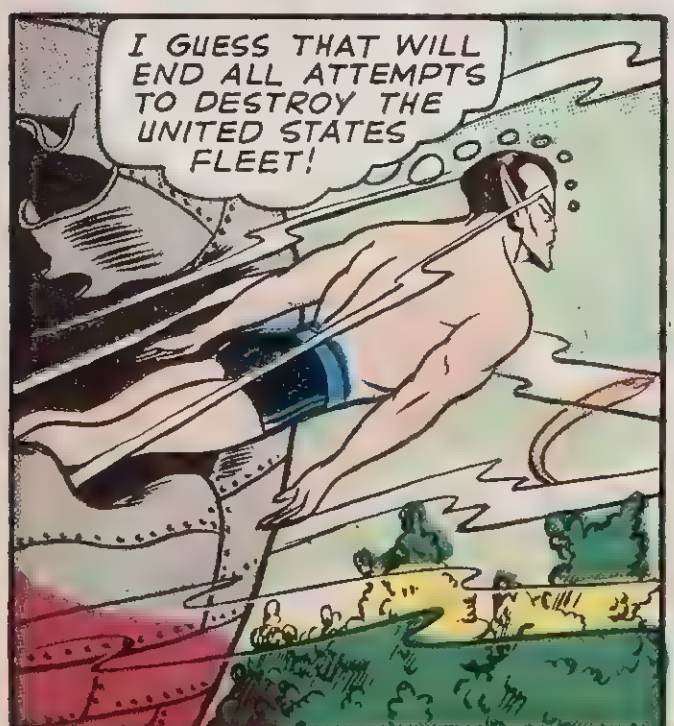
THEN, SUDDENLY... A PHYSICAL TORNADO COMES THROUGH... PRINCE NAMOR!
TCH! TCH! NOW YOU SEE THE LIGHT!
NAMOR SURGES THROUGH A RING OF SAILORS.....
ONE SIDE! I'M AFTER THE CHEESE!
OWW! YI!
HO, ADMIRAL! WE MEET!
INFIDELS! SHOOT HIM!
TO SHOOT ME, ADMIRAL IS TO SHOOT YOU! WE'LL MAKE A TRIP TO THE POWDER ROOM NOW! I HAVE A LITTLE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATING TO DO!
POWDER ROOM
RETURNING TO THE BALLAST CONTROL ROOM, NAMOR SETS THE POWDER DOWN
BALLAST CONTROLS
HELP! HELP! HE'S GOING TO BLOW UP THE BALLAST CONTROLS!
CORRECT... THE TANKS WILL OVERFLOOD...THEN, GOODBYE, SUPER-SUB... SIMPLE, EH? LOAN ME YOUR LIGHTER! THANKS!

KILL HIM! HE'S MAD!
TOO LATE, ADMIRAL, SHE'S GOING TO BLOW UP... DUCK!

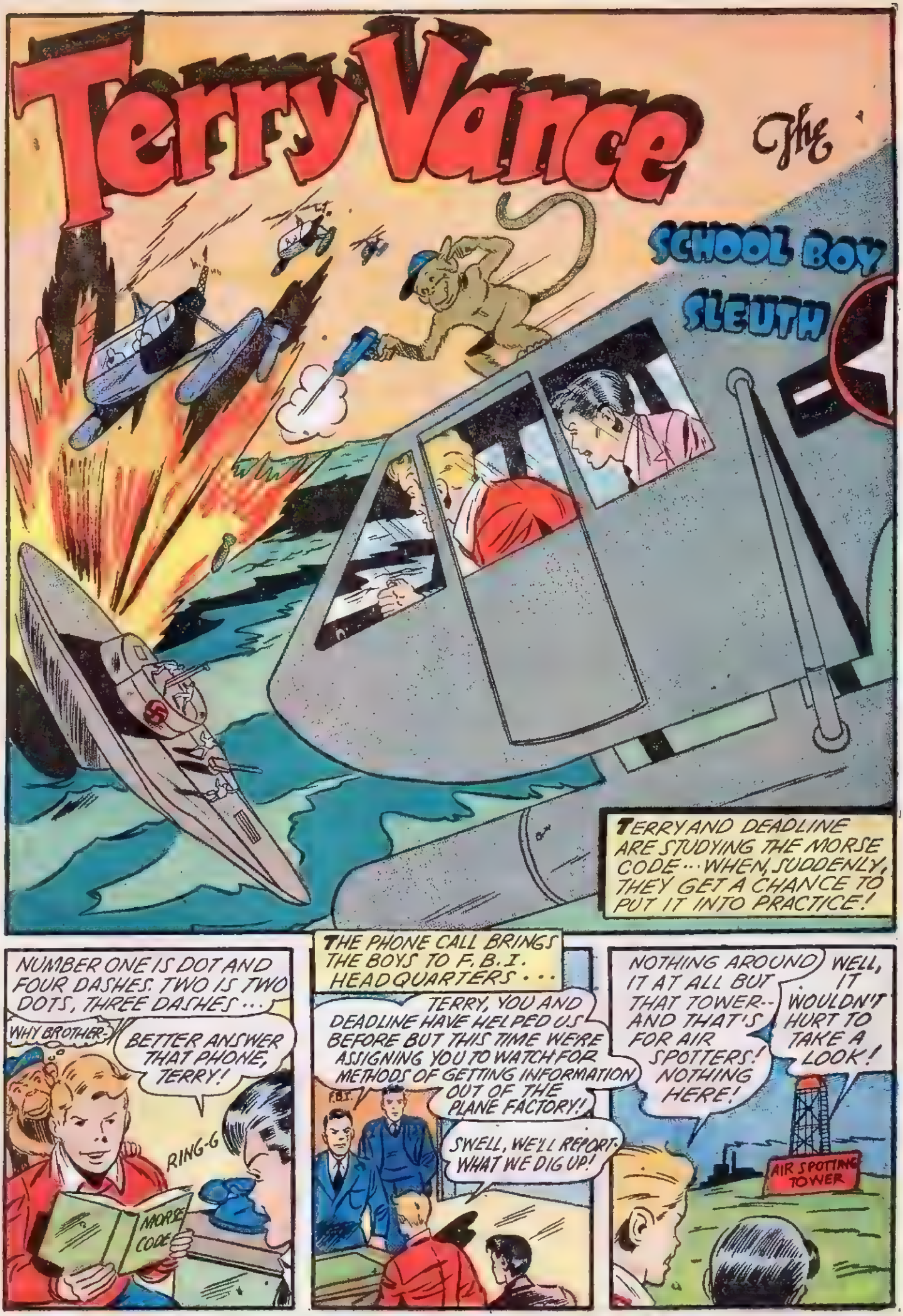

A TREMENDOUS ROAR AND....
BOOM!!
DUCKED JUST IN TIME!

TONS OF WATER OVERFLOOD THE BALLAST TANKS AND THE SUPER-SUB GOES DOWN....THE SHIP'S SEAMS RIP OPEN FROM STEM TO STERN....
WE'LL DROWN! YAGHHH!
TCH!... WHAT A SHAME!

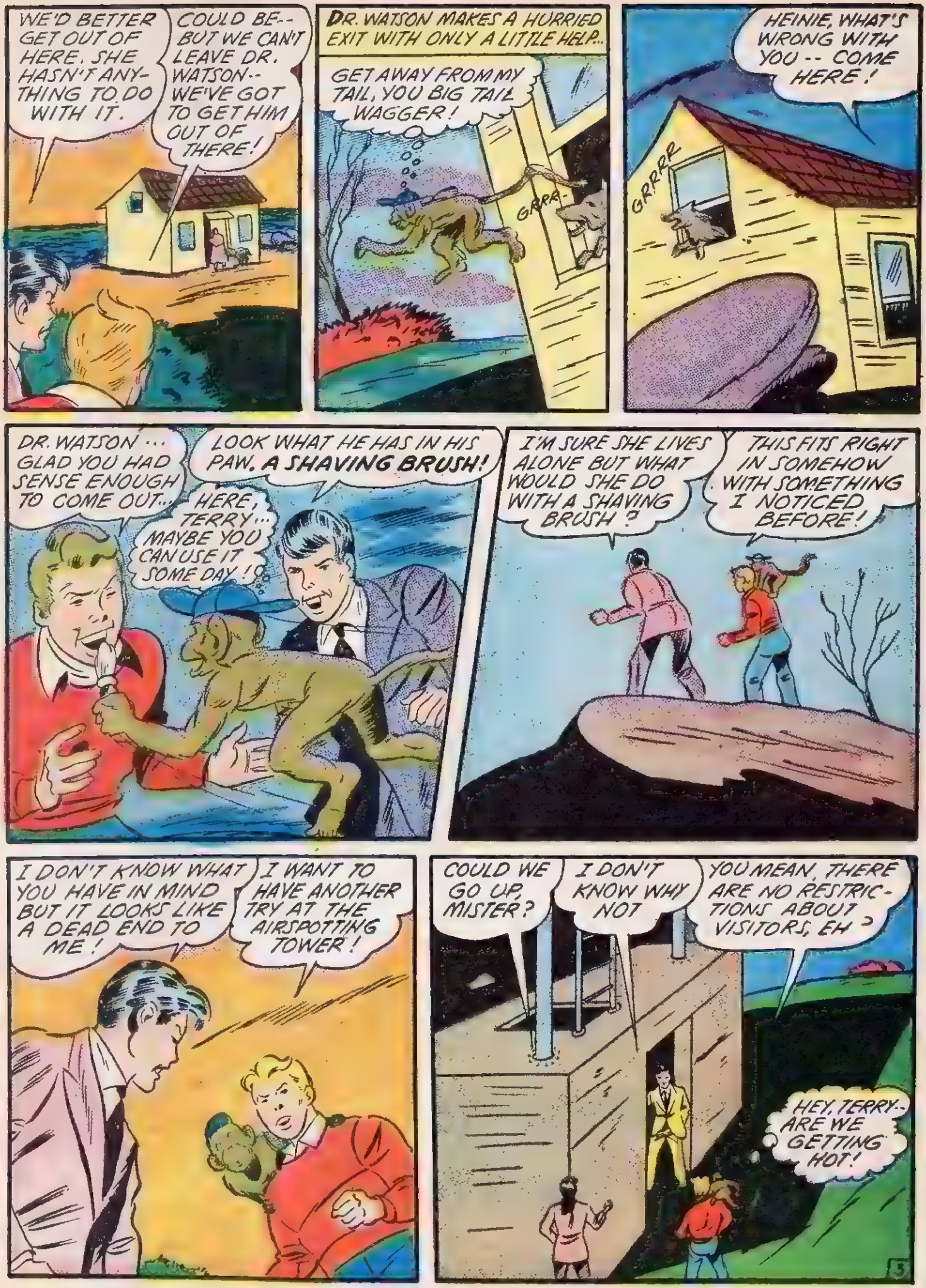

SOON THE DEAFENING SILENCE OF DEATH MASTERS THE SUNKEN VESSEL!
NOT A LIVING SOUL LEFT, POOR DEVILS! I WON'T FEEL SORRY FOR THE SNAKES, THOUGH!


I GUESS THAT WILL END ALL ATTEMPTS TO DESTROY THE UNITED STATES FLEET!

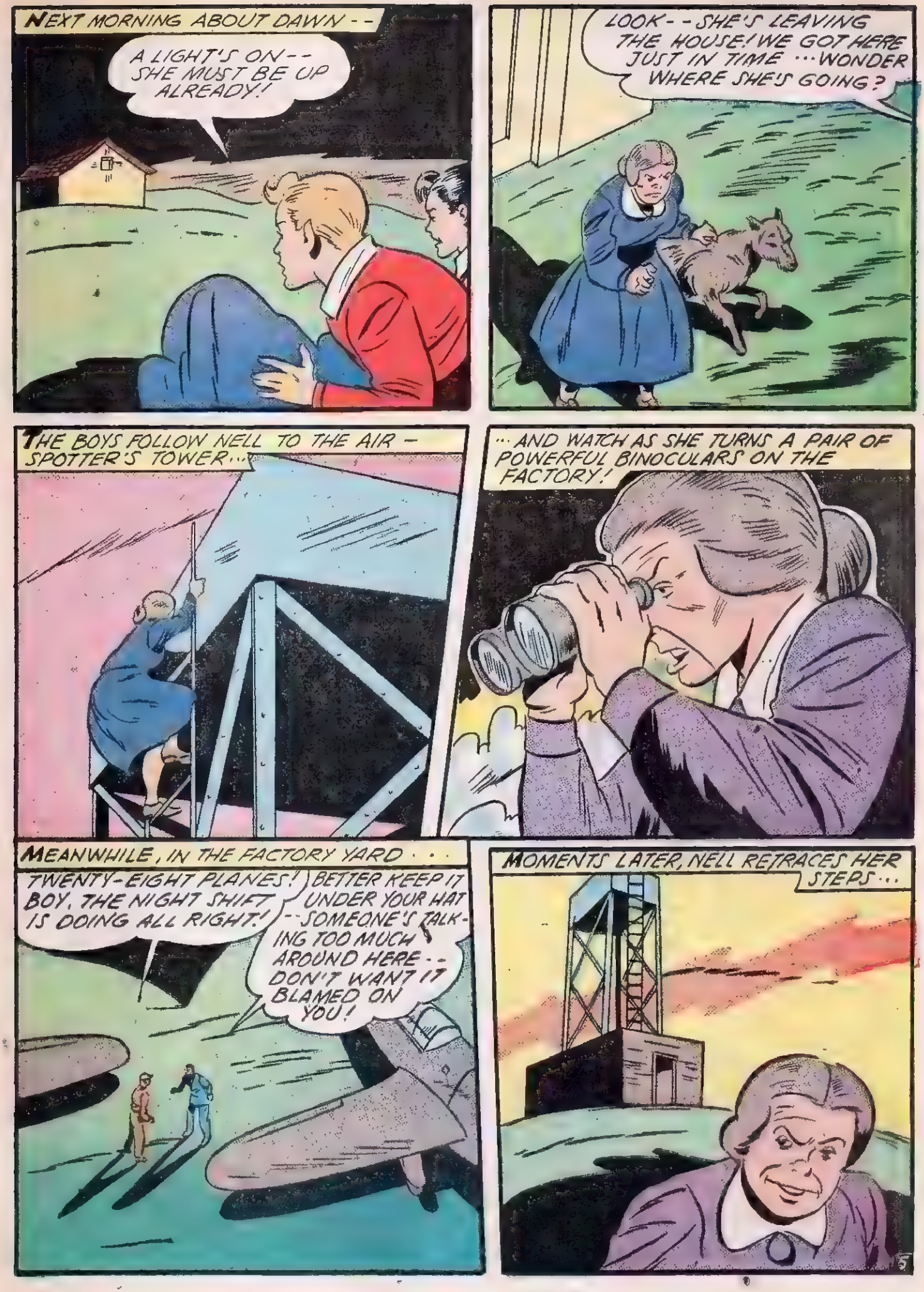
ONCE MORE ON THE SURFACE, PRINCE NAMOR SETS OFF FOR A RENDEZVOUS WITH FRIENDS.....
THE UNITED STATES NAVAL INTELLIGENCE WILL BE MIGHTY INTERESTED IN THE STORY I HAVE TO TELL THEM!


Terry Vance
The
SCHOOL BOY
SLEUTH
TERRY AND DEADLINE ARE STUDYING THE MORSE CODE ... WHEN, SUDDENLY, THEY GET A CHANCE TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE!
NUMBER ONE IS DOT AND FOUR DASHES. TWO IS TWO DOTS, THREE DASHES ...
WHY BROTHER-
BETTER ANSWER THAT PHONE, TERRY!
RING-G
MORSE CODE
THE PHONE CALL BRINGS THE BOYS TO F. B. I. HEADQUARTERS ...
TERRY, YOU AND DEADLINE HAVE HELPED US BEFORE BUT THIS TIME WE'RE ASSIGNING YOU TO WATCH FOR METHODS OF GETTING INFORMATION OUT OF THE PLANE FACTORY!
F.B.I.
SWELL, WE'LL REPORT WHAT WE DIG UP!
NOTHING AROUND IT AT ALL BUT THAT TOWER-- AND THAT'S FOR AIR SPOTTERS! NOTHING HERE!
WELL, IT WOULDN'T HURT TO TAKE A LOOK!
AIR SPOTTING TOWER

HELLO -- CAN WE GO UP..
NO! IT'S AGAINST ORDERS TO LET ANYONE UP WHO HAS NO BUSINESS THERE! GO AWAY!
OKAY-- COME ON, DEADLINE!
AIR SPOTTING
TOW
GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, TERRY -- THAT'S OLD NELL... SHE DOES LAUNDRY FOR EVERYBODY IN TOWN!
DIDN'T YOU NOTICE ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THAT OLD WOMAN? WELL, I DID! C'MON, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOOK AT HER HOUSE!
GIVE US A HINT, TERRY?
EVERY WINDOW IS LOCKED AND THE BLINDS ARE CLOSED!
THE PEEK WINDOW IS OPEN -- DR. WATSON, YOU GO IN AND LOOK AROUND!
OH, BOY-- THIS IS RIGHT UP MY ALLEY!
TERRY, DUCK! I HEAR SOMEONE COMING!
GET DOWN BEHIND THIS BUSH!
HERE LEAVE THE CAT ALONE, HEINIE! COME HERE!
2


WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE. SHE HASN'T ANY-THING TO DO WITH IT.
COULD BE-- BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE DR. WATSON-- WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM OUT OF THERE!
DR. WATSON MAKES A HURRIED EXIT WITH ONLY A LITTLE HELP...
GET AWAY FROM MY TAIL, YOU BIG TAIL WAGGER!
GRRR-
HEINIE, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU -- COME HERE!
GR.RRR
DR. WATSON ... GLAD YOU HAD SENSE ENOUGH TO COME OUT...
LOOK WHAT HE HAS IN HIS PAW. A SHAVING BRUSH!
HERE, TERRY... MAYBE YOU CAN USE IT SOME DAY!
I'M SURE SHE LIVES ALONE BUT WHAT WOULD SHE DO WITH A SHAVING BRUSH?
THIS FITS RIGHT IN SOMEHOW WITH SOMETHING I NOTICED BEFORE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND BUT IT LOOKS LIKE A DEAD END TO ME!
I WANT TO HAVE ANOTHER TRY AT THE AIRSPOTTING TOWER!
COULD WE GO UP, MISTER?
I DON'T KNOW WHY NOT
YOU MEAN, THERE ARE NO RESTRIC-TIONS ABOUT VISITORS, EH?
HEY, TERRY.. ARE WE GETTING HOT!
3

DO YOU KNOW THE OLD LADY WHO HAS THE WATCH BEFORE YOU?
EVERYBODY KNOWS OLD NELL -- GOSH, SHE HOLDS THE RECORD HERE FOR NEVER MISSING A DAY!
HEY, TERRY --- TAKE A LOOK OVER THIS WAY!
YOU CAN SEE EVERY PLANE THE FACTORY TURNS OUT PARKED IN THE YARD!
FIFTEEN SIXTEEN - I COUNT TWENTY-SEVEN -- THEY MUST BE THE ONES THE DAY SHIFT JUST FINISHED! COME ON, DEADLINE! THANKS MISTER!
YOU GO TO THE OFFICE AND LOOK UP NELL IN THE MORGUE -- I'LL REPORT TO THE F.B.I.!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, DEADLINE? WHERE IS YOUR STORY FOR THE FIRST EDITION?
I'LL HAVE A STORY, BOSS -- AND A BIG ONE!
BUT, TERRY, WE KNOW ALL ABOUT NELL -- WE'VE INVESTIGATED EVERY ONE OF THOSE SPOTTERS!
BUT I'M SURE SHE ISN'T A **WOMAN!** YOU OUGHT TO SEARCH HER HOUSE!
YES -- WHAT WOULD SHE BE DOING WITH A SHAVING BRUSH IF SHE WAS A WOMAN?
OH THAT DOESN'T PROVE ANYTHING - SHE'S LIVED THERE A LONG TIME!
HOW WOULD **SHE** GET INFORMATION TO THE ENEMY? NEVER GOES ANYWHERE. NO ELECTRICITY FOR A SHORT WAVE. THINK YOU BOYS ARE ON THE WRONG TRACK. TRY AGAIN!
WELL, WE'RE JUST WHERE WE STARTED!
I'M ALMOST CERTAIN WE'RE RIGHT... DEAD-LINE, MEET ME TOMORROW MORNING AND WE'LL WATCH FOR HER ALL DAY!
DO I HAVE TO GET UP EARLY, TOO?
4


NEXT MORNING ABOUT DAWN - -
A LIGHT'S ON - - SHE MUST BE UP ALREADY!
LOOK - - SHE'S LEAVING THE HOUSE! WE GOT HERE JUST IN TIME ... WONDER WHERE SHE'S GOING?
THE BOYS FOLLOW NELL TO THE AIR - SPOTTER'S TOWER...
... AND WATCH AS SHE TURNS A PAIR OF POWERFUL BINOCULARS ON THE FACTORY!
MEANWHILE, IN THE FACTORY YARD . . .
TWENTY-EIGHT PLANES! BOY, THE NIGHT SHIFT IS DOING ALL RIGHT!
BETTER KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT - - SOMEONE'S TALKING TOO MUCH AROUND HERE - - DON'T WANT IT BLAMED ON YOU!
MOMENTS LATER, NELL RETRACES HER STEPS...

THEIR SUSPICIONS NOW PARTLY CONFIRMED, THE BOYS STAY CLOSE BEHIND HER!
SHE'S GONE INSIDE AGAIN! GUESS THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO BUT WAIT!
WELL, SOMETHING HAD BETTER DEVELOP OR I'LL GET FIRED!
AN HOUR OR TWO LATER...
THAT'S A FUNNY WAY TO HANG CLOTHES... TOWELS SHOULD BE HUNG UP AND DOWN!
THAT'S IT, DEADLINE! THE MORSE CODE! SHE'S GOT IT HUNG ON THE CLOTHES LINE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
CAN'T YOU SEE? THE LITTLE TOWELS ARE DOTS AND THE BIG ONES ARE DASHES! LOOK, TWO DOTS AND THREE DASHES! THAT MEANS TWO! THEN A SPACE, THEN THREE TOWELS LENGTHWISE, THEN TWO SMALL TOWELS - THAT'S EIGHT - TWENTY EIGHT!
SUDDENLY, THE SURFACE OF THE WATER IS TROUBLED AS A LONG FORM RISES OUT OF THE DEPTHS!
LOOK - A GERMAN SUBMARINE!
OH, BOY! COME ON - WE'LL CHECK THE NUMBER WITH THE PLANES IN THE YARD!
YES, SIR! SHE HAD THE TOWELS HUNG ON THE LINE TO SPELL OUT TWENTY EIGHT IN MORSE CODE AND THAT'S THE NUMBER OF PLANES THE PLANT TURNED OUT LAST NIGHT WE CHECKED THAT!
THE SUB - MARINE GOT THE SIGNAL!
IT'S UNBELIEVE - ABLE! COME ON, WE'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ARMY AIR FIELD!
6

YES, AN ENEMY SUBMARINE HAS BEEN SIGHTED OFF THE COAST NEAR THE PLANT!
THE AIR FORCE GOES INTO ACTION!
AND...
HERE IT IS! BOMBS AWAY!
BOMBS AWAY!
THE NAZI PLAN IS HALTED!
GOOD WORK, BOYS! THE SUB WAS SUNK AND HERE'S YOUR SPY! BUT, TELL ME, HOW DID YOU KNOW SHE WAS A MAN, TERRY?
LOOK HOW HIS ARMS ARE FOLDED. THE RIGHT HAND IS TUCKED UNDER THE LEFT ARM! ONLY A MAN DOES THAT!
--A WOMAN ALWAYS TUCKS HER LEFT HAND UNDER HER RIGHT ARM...I WAS CERTAIN SHE WAS A MAN THE FIRST TIME I SAW HER!
GOOD WORK, TERRY! CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR KEEN OBSERVATION -- HE DISGUISED EVERYTHING PERFECTLY -- BUT HE STILL FOLDED HIS ARMS LIKE A MAN! HA! HA!
THE MORAL OF THIS STORY IS KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR DETAILS! TERRY RANG THE BELL BECAUSE HE KEPT HIS EYES PEELED FOR SMALL DETAILS!

ALL WET

THE last chock came out with a snap and went sailing out past Jerry's ear, to strike the water with a splash. Whirling, Jerry caught sight of a man dashing past the double row of trucks on the barge. Then the trucks had begun to roll. As Jerry leaped forward the long line bumped and jolted its way to the edge of the barge and, one by one, surrounded by a white fringe of froth, plunged off into the bay.

It was too late to stop them. Jerry raced across the barge as it righted itself sluggishly, then dipped to the far side, under the weight of the second row of trucks. Jerry reached the edge, stood poised on the side of the barge. He caught sight of a figure swimming away through the filtering snow, a man—

Somewhere a police whistle shrilled in the dark. Jerry turned, moved along the barge to the end. The pier rose above him. Lights peered gloomily down through dots of snow. As Jerry swarmed to the top of the pier, a guard plunged toward him, swinging a pump gun up.

"Halt!" a voice rasped. "Who is it?"

"Jerry Dayton, badge 263. I was working on the barge—"

"Step up—okay. What happened?"

"Someone knocked the blocks from under the line of trucks. They rolled off into the bay. I saw a man swimming away!"

Other guards appeared. They were making a search. Out on the bay sounded the muffled throb of a marine engine. Probably the coast guard. Lights sprang into life all about, peering ominously into the shroud of snow.

Cliff Cummings, night foreman, showed up. "You're wanted, Jerry. Up front." The foreman's voice was hard, unfriendly.

JERRY squared his shoulders as he stepped into the bright lights of the office. Captain Timmons, Les Wiley, the senior night guard, and Cliff Cummings were here. No one looked friendly, Jerry noted uneasily. Why? Did they think he—

"Jerry Dayton?" Captain Timmons said softly. "I understand you were on the barge when this accident occurred. Just what happened?"

Carefully Jerry explained. "Someone jumped off and swam away," he concluded. "It was a man. I saw him."

Captain Timmons' square face tightened. "You aren't positive. It might have been your imagination!"

"There was no one else. Outside of me—"

The Captain nodded. "I realize that. So it is doubly important we make sure there *was* someone else on that barge!"

For a moment it was very quiet. Jerry drew a deep breath. "You mean—you think I—I—"

Captain Timmons glanced at the foreman briefly. "I don't know what to think just yet. We must investigate carefully. For the present you are suspended. You may go home. But . . . you are to stay there. You will be under surveillance till this is cleared up!"

IT WAS chilly in the street. Jerry was glad of it. He moved through the dimmed-out streets, aware of the sounds of the dock district, the puff of tugs somewhere in the sea of snow.

The lunchroom at the corner looked friendly

and he turned inside. It was warm in here. He wanted a cup of coffee. There were a few other men here, loaders from the different docks. Cleve Winston was in a corner, thawing out, a little puddle of water at his feet from his dripping clothes. He hunched over his coffee. Jerry took the stool next to him.

"Thought you were working till midnight," Cleve questioned. "What you going home so early for?"

"Something happened." Jerry added sugar to his coffee. "I—I've been suspended. I'll be lucky if that's all."

"I thought they needed men—"

"I guess they do. But . . . someone knocked the chocks from under a line of trucks on the barge." Jerry felt tension grip his throat as if to shut off the words. Maybe he shouldn't say anything. . . .

Cleve Winston finished his coffee, fished out a nickel. "Don't tell me they think *you're* it!"

For a second Jerry waited, thinking hard. "No-o. They know who did it, all right!"

Cleve stood up, pulling his coat closer about him. "That's good. Wouldn't want to see you in trouble. Well, see you later." Cleve moved to the door and pushed through.

Quickly Jerry paid for his coffee. He got up and headed out the door. The wind was strong now, and there was a bite in it. Cleve was headed down the block, shoulders hunched into the wind. Jerry settled himself carefully to follow Cleve, find out where he was going.

Cleve headed out to the edge of town. Eventually he turned up a path leading to a house set back among a clump of naked trees. The wind rattled faintly in the branches. Cleve Winston knocked at the door and a moment later it swung open.

The house was large and most of it was in darkness. It was old and Jerry had no trouble finding a window that gave under pressure. He swung cautiously into a cellar, risked a light briefly, found the stairs and climbed to another door. This was unlocked. He let himself through, stood listening. Evidently he stood in a hallway, for ahead of him showed a thin thread of light. A voice sounded. Cleve's voice.

"It's worth it," Cleve was urging. "You'll always thank me for tipping you off. And I can use the dough!"

Jerry moved closer. He was outside the door. Again Cleve urged, "It's just a drop in the bucket to you, Max. If you pass it up—you'll wish you hadn't!"

Jerry grew taut. Cleve was here, was trying to sell information of some kind to someone. But why? If Cleve—

THE door opened with a jerk. Jerry found himself facing the ugly hole of a revolver. Above it stood a hunched, thin-faced man.

"Come in," Max invited. "You and Cleve—friends, eh?"

Jerry moved forward carefully. He saw Cleve across the room, his hard face creased with anger and suspicion. Max backed up slowly, a small smile about his buttonish mouth.

Cleve exclaimed, "You better come to terms, Max—"

"I will," the old man said softly. "Very definite terms, my friend." He turned to look at Cleve. "I'm going to kill you! I know what happened. You fumbled at the docks, Cleve. You missed your cue. And now . . ."

Cleve's hand darted swiftly, flashed out with a gun. The flat smash of its shot was echoed by a faint cry from Max. His body slumped, his knees bent, and he pitched to his face.

Cleve advanced stealthily.

Jerry gripped the back of a wooden chair and flung it around in a circle, heaving it across at Cleve. Cleve yelped, tried to duck. He stumbled and sprawled to hands and knees.

Desperately Jerry closed in. As Cleve scrambled to one knee, Jerry lashed in a crushing blow. Cleve's head snapped far back, his body tilted over and dropped.

"It was easy," Jerry later explained to his two captives, now neatly tied into compact bundles on the floor. "There was a puddle of water where you were sitting in the lunchroom. Under your overcoat you were soaking wet. You were the guy on the barge who jumped in and swam away when you saw me. That tipped me off. You were working for Max, getting paid to do this rotten work. But maybe . . . you aren't so smart after all!"

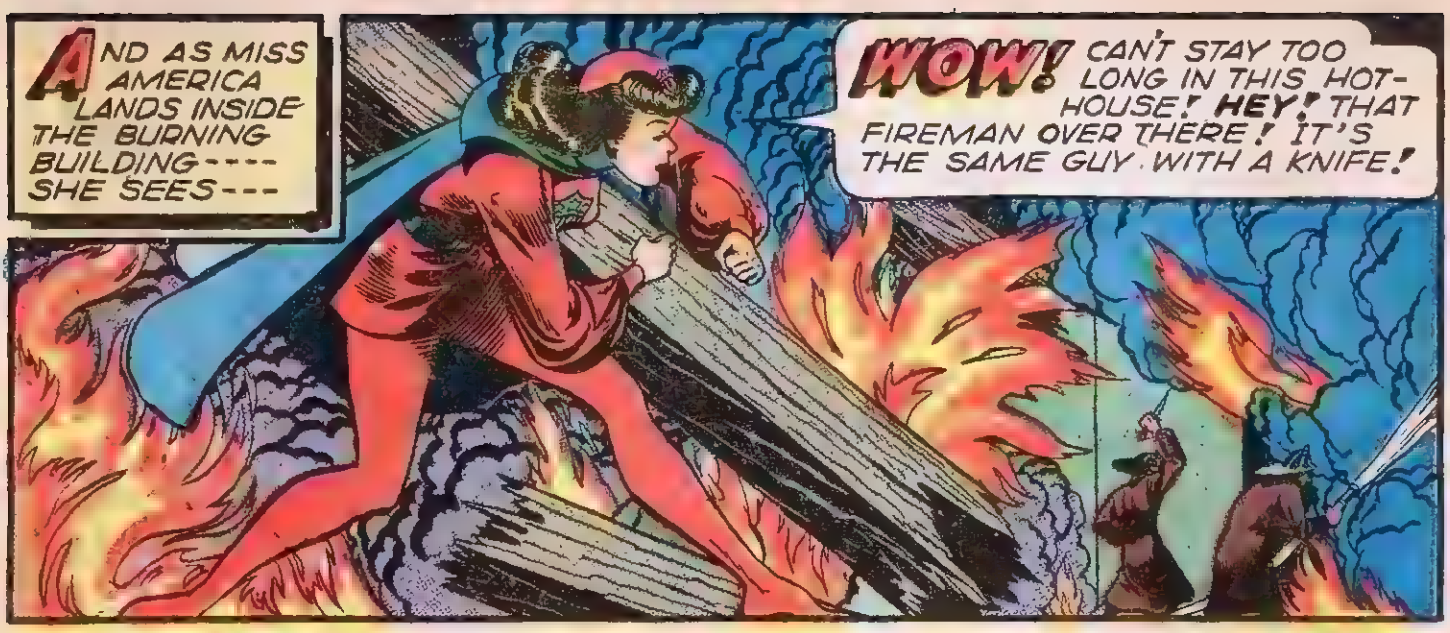
Cleve tested the ropes binding his wrists. "I'll get out of this, bud. And when I do—watch out!"

Jerry chuckled. "You'll be like Old Man Moe. You'll have whiskers down to your knees when you get out. And a wheel-chair!"

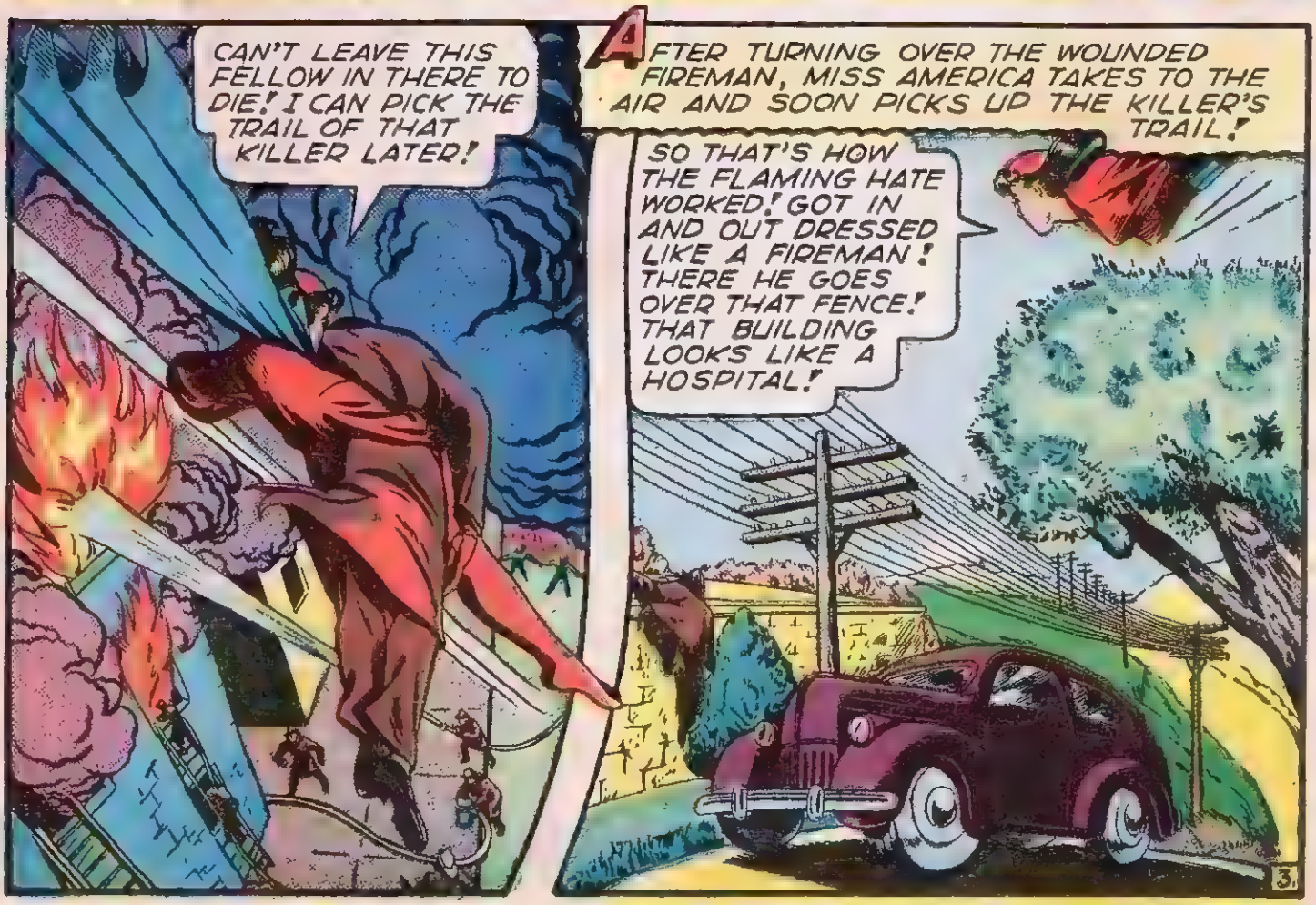
THE END

Miss
AMERICA
INTREPID FIREMEN QUAKING IN PERIL AS THEY STAND BEFORE BLAZING INFERNOS! NOT FEAR OF FIRE BUT OF MYSTERIOUS DANGER LURKING WITHIN! FEAR OF THE UNSEEN HAND TAKING ITS TOLL AT EACH FIRE! STRIKING SWIFTLY AND UNERRINGLY--- MURDERING ONE OF THEM EVERYTIME THEY GO FORTH TO DO THEIR DUTY!
MISS AMERICA ZOOMS THRU SEARING FLAME AND SMOKE TO HUNT DOWN THE MENACE OF THE--
FLAMING HATE!

MADELINE AND HER UNCLE ARE STOPPED AT A STRONG POLICE LINE THROWN AROUND A RAGING FIRE!
HELLO, CAPTAIN! WHY ALL THE POLICE?
FLAMING HATE?
OH--HELLO THERE, MR. BENTON! WE'RE TRYING TO TRAP A KILLER WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE FLAMING HATE!
POLICE
YEP! THAT'S WHAT HE CALLS HIMSELF! WORKS AT FIRE ONLY AND KILLS ONLY FIREMEN--THE SAME WAY WITH A KNIFE IN THE BACK AND A CARD SIGNED FLAMING HATE!
ANY CLUES?
NO! WE'VE BEEN WATCHING EVERY FIRE WITH HUNDREDS OF MEN BUT HE SLIPS THRU!
BUT A SIXTH SENSE WARNS MADELINE AND SHE REFUSES TO GO WITH THEM AS SHE SEES A FURTIVE FIGURE DASH THRU THE POLICE RING!
WE'LL GO UP ON A ROOF! YOU'LL GET A BETTER LOOK AT THE FIRE!
COMING, MADELINE?
HUH?--OH--NO, UNCLE JIM! I THINK I'LL WATCH FROM HERE!
SOMETHING WRONG! THAT FIGURE DRESSED LIKE A FIREMAN, LOOKED STRANGE! MISS AMERICA BETTER GET IN ON THIS!
SECONDS LATER--MISS AMERICA IS ON THE TRAIL!
IN I GO!
ZOOM!


AND AS MISS AMERICA LANDS INSIDE THE BURNING BUILDING---- SHE SEES---
WOW! CAN'T STAY TOO LONG IN THIS HOT-HOUSE! HEY! THAT FIREMAN OVER THERE! IT'S THE SAME GUY WITH A KNIFE!

NO YOU DON'T, MR. FLAMING HATE! (GROAN) TOO LATE!
I WAS WRONG! HE'S ONLY WOUNDED! HEY! THE KILLER IS GETTING AWAY!

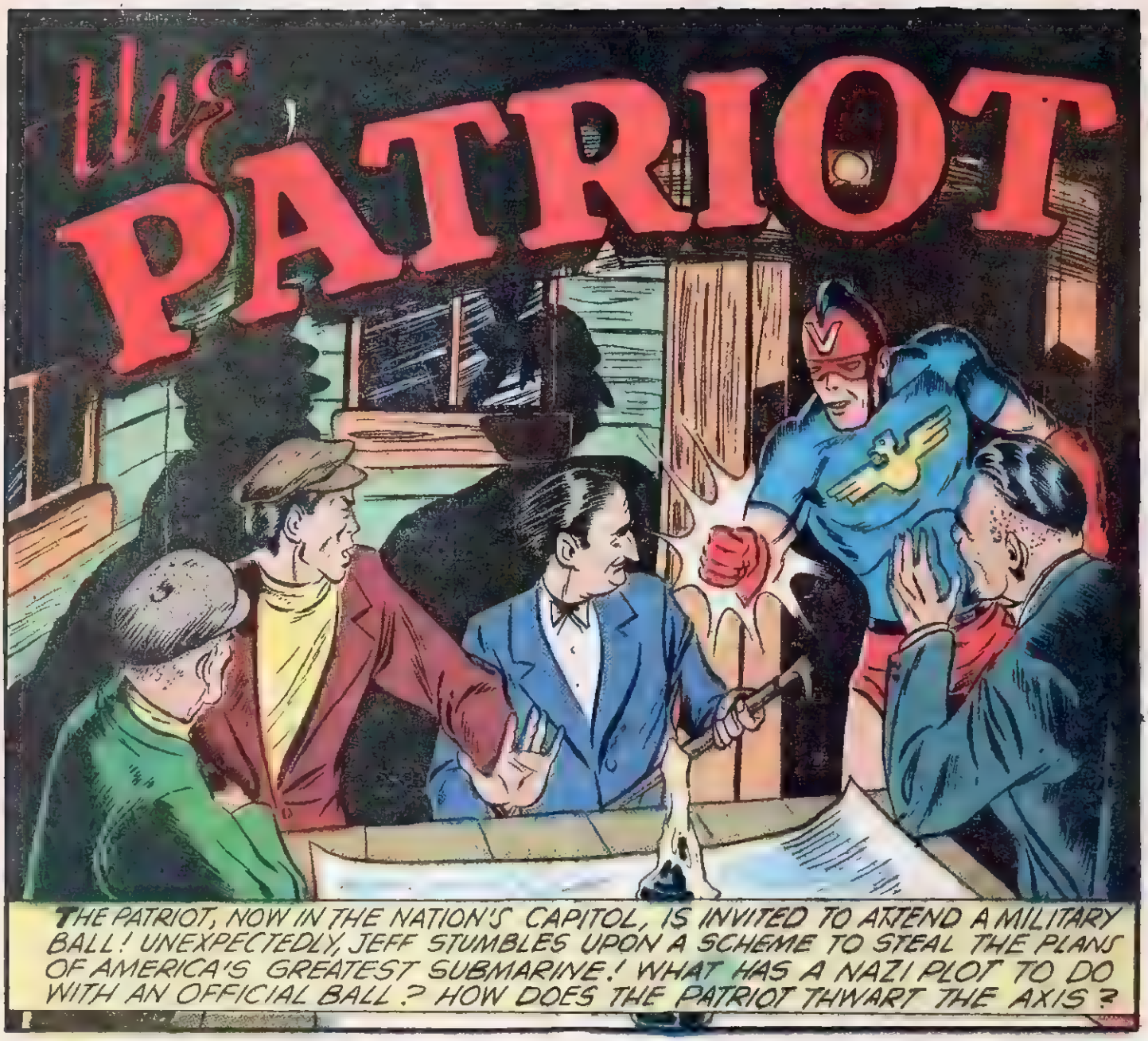

CAN'T LEAVE THIS FELLOW IN THERE TO DIE! I CAN PICK THE TRAIL OF THAT KILLER LATER!
AFTER TURNING OVER THE WOUNDED FIREMAN, MISS AMERICA TAKES TO THE AIR AND SOON PICKS UP THE KILLER'S TRAIL!
SO THAT'S HOW THE FLAMING HATE WORKED! GOT IN AND OUT DRESSED LIKE A FIREMAN! THERE HE GOES OVER THAT FENCE! THAT BUILDING LOOKS LIKE A HOSPITAL!
3.

SECONDS LATER---
THE FLAMING HATE IN HERE? IMPOSSIBLE! THIS IS AN INSANE ASYLUM! NO ONE COULD GET OUT!
I FOLLOWED HIM HERE FROM THE FIRE! HE TRIED TO KILL ANOTHER FIREMAN! HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL NOW, FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE!
LOOK!
SO HE IS NOT DEAD! AND YOU ARE TO BLAME! FIRST I WILL KILL YOU BOTH AND THEN I WILL FINISH THE FIREMAN IN THE HOSPITAL!
START YOUR KILLING--I'M WAITING!
MISS AMERICA MEETS THE KILLER WITH A LIGHTNING ATTACK OF HER OWN!
AND THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!
OOPS!
THE KILLER SUDDENLY LASHES OUT!
HA, HA!
HA, HA--ALL FIREMEN MUST PAY!
4

TWENTY MINUTES LATER---
TAKE IT EASY! YOU'VE BEEN OUT A LONG TIME!
DID HE GET AWAY?
MISS AMERICA'S ALERT MIND, AFTER HEARING THE DOCTOR TELL OF THE KILLER'S ESCAPE, SENSES A TERRIBLE THREAT...
HURRY! CALL THE FIRE DEPT. AND TELL THEM TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL!
THE KILLER WON'T HESITATE TO BURN DOWN THE HOSPITAL AND ALL THOSE POOR PATIENTS WITH IT TO CARRY OUT HIS THREAT TO KILL THE WOUNDED FIREMAN!
ZOOM!
WOW! THE WHOLE HOSPITAL IS IN FLAMES! THANK HEAVENS THE FIREMEN ARE ON THE JOB! LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GETTING ALL THE PATIENTS OUT OF THE BUILDING IN TIME! NOW TO LOOK FOR THE "FLAMING HATE!"
--AND THE FIREMEN DO SUCCEED IN GETTING ALL THE PATIENTS OUT OF THE BUILDING, THANKS TO MISS AMERICA AND THE DOCTOR'S QUICK ACTION ON THE PHONE --- BUT IN ONE ROOM OF THE HOSPITAL -- JUST A FEW SECONDS BEFORE THE AVENGING FIGURE OF MISS AMERICA ZOOMS TOWARD THE TOWERING PILE OF SMOKE AND FLAME---
WOW! IT'S SPREADING FAST! WHICH ROOM IS IT?
THAT ROOM! ---THE FIREMAN WHO WAS WOUNDED IS IN THERE!
218
5.

LOOK!
THE KILLER SAVAGELY ATTACKS THE DAZED ORDERLY AS THE NURSE COLLAPSES IN A DEAD FAINT!
HA, HA! NO ONE WILL STOP MY REVENGE!
AND AT THE MOMENT THAT THE CRAZED KILLER IS ABOUT TO PLUNGE THE KNIFE DOWN INTO THE HELPLESS FIGURE ON THE BED--
AH! I'M JUST IN TIME!
HURRY! GET THE FIREMEN TO HELP YOU WITH THE NURSE AND THE PATIENT! I'LL GET THE KILLER!
HA, HA! YOU'LL NEVER GET ME! I MUST LIVE TO TAKE MY REVENGE!
GREAT GUNS! THE FLOOR IS COLLAPSING RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM!

WITH AN EAR SHATTERING SCREAM OF TERROR, THE KILLER GOES DOWN INTO THE ROARING FIERY PIT TO HIS DOOM! A VICTIM OF HIS OWN FLAMING HATE!
UGH! WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO DIE! BETTER GET OUT OF HERE MYSELF! BEST WAY IS BACK THRU THE SAME ROOM!
COULDN'T YOU GET HELP?
TRIED! (COUGH) FLAMES STOPPED US!
I'LL TAKE THESE TWO DOWN WITH ME! YOU GET SET TO JUMP! THE FIREMEN ARE SPREADING THE NET BELOW!
DOWN ZOOMS THE FIGURE OF MISS AMERICA FROM THE FLAMING BUILDING!
GOOD -- THE ORDERLY MADE IT! NOW TO DEPOSIT MY TWO BUNDLES!
HERE COMES MISS AMERICA! SHE'S CARRYING TWO PEOPLE!
THAT EVENING AT HOME ---
LISTEN TO THIS, MADELINE! "THE FLAMING HATE" BLAMED ALL FIREMEN FOR THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE, WHO WAS TRAPPED IN A FIRE AND BURNED TO DEATH! HE WAS OUT FOR REVENGE! IT'S A GOOD THING THAT MISS AMERICA WAS ON THE JOB!
THE END


the PATRIOT
THE PATRIOT, NOW IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL, IS INVITED TO ATTEND A MILITARY BALL! UNEXPECTEDLY, JEFF STUMBLES UPON A SCHEME TO STEAL THE PLANS OF AMERICA'S GREATEST SUBMARINE! WHAT HAS A NAZI PLOT TO DO WITH AN OFFICIAL BALL? HOW DOES THE PATRIOT THWART THE AXIS?

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO BE A GUEST AT A MILITARY BALL, HELD TONIGHT BY HIGH RANKING ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS.
HM! NO REASON WHY I SHOULDN'T GO. SOUNDS INTERESTING ENOUGH!

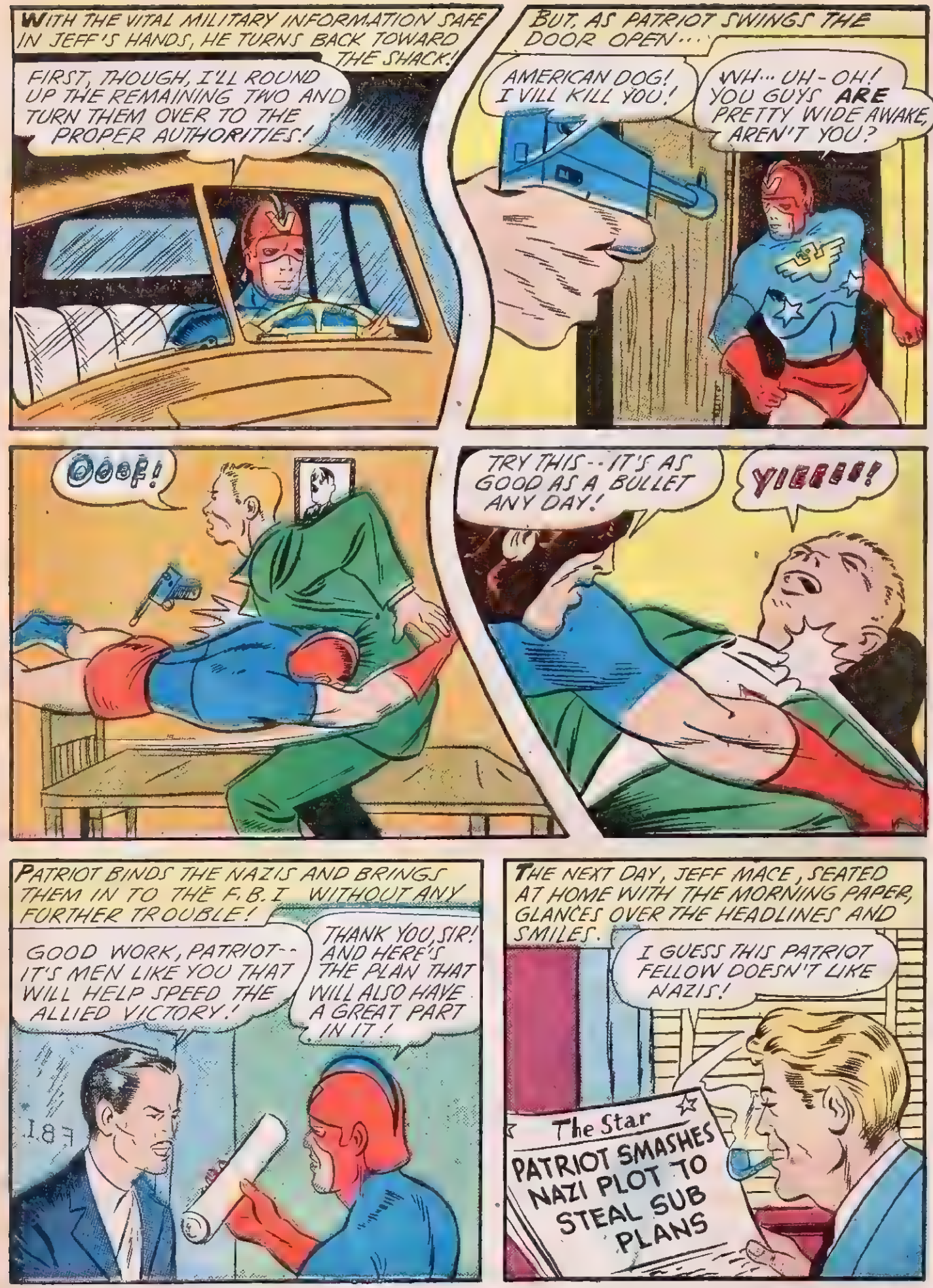
THE EVENING OF THE BALL!
UH, UH! WHAT A TURNOUT! UNIFORMS ALL OVER THE PLACE -- MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE COME AS THE PATRIOT!
WHEW ... WARM IN HERE!! THINK I'LL DUCK OUT AND GET SOME AIR! THESE PEOPLE ARE ALL TALKING OVER MY HEAD ANYWAY!
BUT AS JEFF STEPS INTO THE GARDEN ...
OUR PLANS VORK, EH, BARON?
JA -- DER MEN ARE DERE NOW!
HA - VE ARE ACCEPTED AS POOR REFUGEE AUSTRIANS BY DESE STUPID AMERICANS! BAH! SOON VE HAFF DER PLANS FOR DER SUBMARINE FROM PARKER'S HOUSE UND DEN VE RETURN TO GERMANY!
HM -- I'D SAY THEY WERE NAZIS AFTER SOME SUB PLANS! OKAY, PATRIOT WILL STOP THEM!
PARKER'S -- THEY MUST MEAN ADMIRAL PARKER'S HOME! IF I CAN ONLY GET THERE IN TIME TO STOP THEM!
PATRIOT ARRIVES IN TIME . . . . .
VOT ISS?
HA -- I'M IN TIME! WELL, THIS IS ONE AXIS PLOT THAT'S GOING TO BE RUINED!

PATRIOT GOES TO WORK ON THE NAZIS IN TRUE AMERICAN STYLE!
I HOPE I'M NOT MAKING THINGS TOO HOT FOR YOU RATS!
ONE GERMAN SWINGS THE ACETYLENE TORCH ON PATRIOT BUT ...
NO, THANKS -- I DON'T CARE FOR A LIGHT AT THE MOMENT!
BUT THE OTHER NAZI TAKES ADVANTAGE OF JEFF'S MOMENTARY DISTRACTION!
AMERICAN SCHWEIN!
QUICK! TAKE DER PLANS, MUELLER! OUR PLOT VILL BE A SUCCESS IN SPITE OF DER PATRIOT!
PATRIOT RECOVERS TO FIND HIMSELF ALONE ...
THEY'VE GONE! AND THEY'VE GOT THE PLANS! I MUST STOP THEM SOMEHOW ...
THE ONLY CHANCE IS TO GET BACK TO THE BALL AND HOPE THOSE TWO "AUSTRIAN REFUGEES" WILL LEAD ME TO THE PLANS!

AS PATRIOT DRIVES UP TO THE BUILDING ...
THE NAZIS! WHAT A BREAK ...!
LEAD THE WAY, STOOGES! I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
THE NAZI CAR STREAKS THROUGH THE CAPITOL CITY, THROUGH THE SUBURBS, AND INTO THE COUNTRY - - DRAWING TO A STOP BEFORE A DARK AND SILENT SHACK DEEP IN A FOREST!
UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THE TWO MEN I ENCOUNTERED AT THE ADMIRAL'S OFFICE SHOULD BE IN THERE, TOO, AND WITH THE STOLEN PLANS!
YUP, I WAS RIGHT! THERE'S THE MATERIAL ON THE TABLE! HERE'S WHERE I MAKE AN ENTRANCE!
HA, HA! VE HAFF STOLEN THE PLANS RIGHT UNDER THEIR VERY NOSES!
I WOULDN'T BE TOO SURE ABOUT THAT, WEASEL FACE! SURPRISE!
ACH! DOT SCHWEIN! HE ISS BACK!

YOU OUGHT TO LEARN TO USE YOUR HEADS!
AHGGH!
NEIN, NEIN, MINE HERR!
I DON'T GET YOUR LINGO, NAZI BOY--
--BUT HERE'S A LANGUAGE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND!
AWAKE, SO SOON? I MUST BE LOSING MY TOUCH!
WELL, I CAN SOON FIX THAT! HERE--A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP FOR EACH ONE!
HEY--WHERE'S THAT OTHER GUY?! HE GOT AWAY WITH THE PLANS--
WELL, THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG - HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR! MAYBE I CAN SEE HIM FROM THE ROAD!

JUMPING INTO HIS CAR, THE PATRIOT STEPS ON THE GAS AND SPEEDS THROUGH THE NIGHT IN THE HOPE OF CATCHING THE FLEEING NAZI...
PATRIOT RACES DIZZILY DOWN THE NARROW WINDING ROAD!
LOOKS AS THOUGH I'VE LOST- - - HEY, WAIT! WHAT'S THAT AHEAD!
THERE HE IS! HEY-- HE'S SKIDDING!
OMIGOSH! HIS CAR'S LEFT THE ROAD!
AAAEEEYIII!
PATRIOT CAREFULLY SLACKENS SPEED AND PULLS TO A STOP AT THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT.
WHEW! THAT'S THE END OF HIM! I'D BETTER GET DOWN THERE AND RECOVER THE STOLEN PLANS!
GOOD THING THIS WRECK DIDN'T BURN! I'D BETTER GET THESE PLANS BACK WHERE THEY BELONG!
6


WITH THE VITAL MILITARY INFORMATION SAFE IN JEFF'S HANDS, HE TURNS BACK TOWARD THE SHACK!
FIRST, THOUGH, I'LL ROUND UP THE REMAINING TWO AND TURN THEM OVER TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES!
BUT, AS PATRIOT SWINGS THE DOOR OPEN...
AMERICAN DOG! I VILL KILL YOU!
WH... UH-OH! YOU GUYS ARE PRETTY WIDE AWAKE, AREN'T YOU?
OOOF!
TRY THIS--IT'S AS GOOD AS A BULLET ANY DAY!
YIEEE!!
PATRIOT BINDS THE NAZIS AND BRINGS THEM IN TO THE F.B.I WITHOUT ANY FURTHER TROUBLE!
GOOD WORK, PATRIOT--IT'S MEN LIKE YOU THAT WILL HELP SPEED THE ALLIED VICTORY!
THANK YOU, SIR! AND HERE'S THE PLAN THAT WILL ALSO HAVE A GREAT PART IN IT!
THE NEXT DAY, JEFF MACE, SEATED AT HOME WITH THE MORNING PAPER, GLANCES OVER THE HEADLINES AND SMILES.
I GUESS THIS PATRIOT FELLOW DOESN'T LIKE NAZIS!
The Star
PATRIOT SMASHES NAZI PLOT TO STEAL SUB PLANS

THE ANGEL
A MYSTERY AS VAGUE AS NIGHT CONFRONTS THE ANGEL, WHEN HE PENETRATES THE VEIL OF CONSPIRACY TO GET AT A CRIME OF UNSURPASSED HORROR!

ONE EVENING AS THE ANGEL STROLLS ALONG THE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT OF TOWN...
IT'S GOOD TO GET AWAY AND BREATHE SOME FRESH AIR ONCE IN A WHILE!

WELL, LOOK AT THAT -- A MAN WEARING A CLOAK! SEEMS STRANGE IN THIS COUNTRY!

AS ANGEL WATCHES IDLY...
HUH... SLIPPING SOMETHING UNDER THE DOOR... MAYBE IT'S SOME KIND OF...
THEN THE SHADOWY FIGURE RINGS THE BELL AND RUNS...
HUH -- GROWN MEN DON'T PLAY GAMES LIKE THAT, UNLESS THEY'RE UP TO SOMETHING! I'D BETTER FOLLOW THAT GUY!
MEANWHILE ELSA DREDEN ANSWERS THE BELL...
THAT'S FUNNY -- I'M SURE I HEARD THE BELL! OH, SOMEONE LEFT A NOTE!
IT'S ADDRESSED TO HANS -- OH, HANS!
THEN...
DID YOU CALL ME, DEAR?
YES... SOMEONE LEFT THIS AT THE DOOR FOR YOU - HERE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! IT SAYS: "MY DEAR HANS --- I SHALL CALL TONIGHT... WE HAVE MANY THINGS TO TALK OVER "SIGNED," "B" BUT WHO IS "B"?
WAIT... NO! IT COULD NOT BE... IT MUST NOT BE!
HANS, WHAT IS IT? WHO?
2

MAX BOVAR! A CAPTAIN IN THE GESTAPO! WE WERE CHILDREN TOGETHER IN GERMANY ... UNTIL MY PARENTS CAME TO AMERICA!
YOU ARE OUT OF THE NAZI REACH, HANS!
NEVER-THELESS, I'M GOING TO CALL THE POLICE!
HOWEVER..
DO NOT TOUCH THAT PHONE, HANS! I HAD HOPED YOU WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE YOUR OLD FRIEND, MAX!
OHH!
THAT WOULD BE A PLEASURE ONLY IF YOU CAME AS A FRIEND, MAX!
I AM A GOOD GERMAN, HANS - I SERVE MY COUNTRY FIRST! NOW, YOU ARE THE CHIEF CHEMIST AT THE MARS POWDER COMPANY, NEIN?
I THOUGHT I UNDERSTOOD! WELL, YOU WON'T GET THE FORMULA FOR THE MARS-X POWDER! NEVER!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN!
GET INSIDE HERE! QUICK!
COME, ELSA--DO AS HE SAYS -- HE WOULD SHOOT!
HANS, I'M FRIGHTENED!
JUST ONE LAST CHANCE TO GIVE ME WHAT I CAME FOR WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE...
NO--I'LL NEVER GIVE IT TO YOU, BOVAR! NEVER! D'YOU HEAR?
TWEEET!
VERY WELL! PERHAPS STRONGER MEASURES WILL PROVE MORE PERSUASIVE!
3

IN RESPONSE TO BOVAR'S SIGNAL, TWO MORE CLOAKED FIGURES RACE INTO THE ROOM . . .
MAY I PRESENT IVAN AND NORVI... BOTH WELL SCHOOLED IN THE ART OF MAKING PEOPLE TALK!
YOU HAFF VORK FOR US, HERR BOVAR?
STRAP MRS. DREDEN INTO A CHAIR AND LET US SEE YOUR LATEST TECHNIQUE!
JA, MIT PLEASURE!
NO!
BOVAR, LET HER GO! DO WHAT YOU...
CONTROL YOURSELF, HANS!
HANS ... WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO?
WE WILL STOP AS SOON AS YOUR HUSBAND GIVES US THE INFORMATION WE WANT, FRAULEIN!
A FEW MINUTES LATER . . .
THE IRON IS GLOWING, HERR BOVAR!
THEN APPLY IT WHERE IT WILL GET ME DER RESULTS I VANT!
HA! THIS VILL HURT TERRIBLY
NO.. PLEASE! AIEEE!
GIVE IT TO HER!
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, DON'T STOP! I - I'LL GIVE YOU THE FORMULA!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SEE IT MY WAY!
4

H-HERE IT IS! NOW LEAVE US ALONE!
OF COURSE... CERTAINLY...
SUDDENLY, WITH A HARSH TINKLE OF BREAKING GLASS, THE SHADOW OF THE ANGEL CROSSES THE ROOM!
DON'T POCKET THAT FORMULA, BOVAR!
THE CURSED ANGEL!
VE KILL HIM!
YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, NAZIS!
HERE! TRY SITTING IN IT!
UNHH!
PW-W-W!
BUT AS THE ANGEL POUNCES ON THE TWO HENCHMEN . . .
STOP - STOP! ANGEL!!
OUT OF MY WAY!
UGHH!
HOWEVER, ANGEL IS BUSY - - -
OUT YOU GO, YOU RATZIS!
SPLAT!
HIMMEL!
5

ANGEL ... BOVAR ESCAPED WITH THE FORMULA!
CALL THE POLICE-- I'LL GET BOVAR!
THERE HE GOES!
YOU'RE NOT GOING FAR WITH THAT FORMULA, BOVAR!
TRY AND STOP ME ANGEL!
WE NAZIS ARE WELL TRAINED, ANGEL, IN SURPRISE ATTACK! THERE!
OW-W!
THAT WILL NOT HOLD HIM FOR LONG BUT IF I CAN ONLY GET TO THE STREET---I; BOVAR, WILL KILL THE ANGEL!
HA! HA! COME A LITTLE CLOSER, ANGEL! JUST A LITTLE CLOSER!
WHEW-- IMAGINE ME GETTING CAUGHT LIKE THAT! WHY ... BOVAR'S JUST STANDING THERE! OKAY--
HO! HO! THIS IS FUNNY!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, BOVAR, BUT IT WON'T WORK!
6

AS ANGEL APPROACHES, A HARD OVAL OBJECT LEAVES BOVARD'S HAND ...
HAH! TACKLE THIS HAND GRENADE IF YOU CAN, ANGEL!
WHA-A...
BOVAR TURNS TO RUN...
HA! YOU'LL HAVE A STOMACH FULL, NOW, AUF WIEDERSEHN!
IT'LL GO OFF ANY SECOND...
THE ANGEL FLINGS HIMSELF TO THE GROUND AND ROLLS OVER ...
THIS MIGHT HELP!
BOOM!
WOW!
ONE SECOND LATER AND I'D BE PLASTERED ALL OVER THAT CRATER!
MEANWHILE, BOVAR CONGRATULATES HIMSELF ON THE "DEATH" OF THE ANGEL ...
THIS IS ONE TIME THE ANGEL DREW THE CURTAIN OVER HIMSELF! HAH!
TAXI! TAXI!
7

BUT, FROM BEHIND HIM LEAPS AN ANGRY FIGURE!
HE WON'T PULL ANY TRICKS THIS TIME!
TAXI!
HELLO, BOVAR!
HIMMEL! DER ANGEL AGAIN!
BOVAR PULLS AWAY FROM ANGEL'S GRASP AND FALLS BACK!
YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!
LOOK OUT!
THERE IS AN EAR SPLITTING SCREECH AND . . .
BRAKING
AIEEE!
.. THE VILE NAZI LIES STILL IN THE GUTTER!
THE POOR FOOL! -- HE GOT CLIPPED. GOOD! I'D BETTER GET THE FORMULA BEFORE THE POLICE SHOW UP!
ONCE MORE THE EVER VIGILANT SHADOW OF THE ANGEL FALLS UPON A DEFEATED DESPOT...
CALL THE POLICE, CABBY, AND TELL THEM I'LL SEND IN MY REPORT LATER!
Y-YES -- S-SURE, ANGEL!
MINUTES LATER, THE BELL AT HANS DREDEN'S RINGS ONCE MORE ...
HANS! IT IS THE FORMULA!
THANK HEAVENS! THE ANGEL CAUGHT BOVAR! SPLENDID!
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Part of Contents

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1. How to take care of your skin.
2. Professional Make-up Tricks.
3. Secrets of Smart Hair-Styling.
4. Hands can tell a tale; manicuring.
5. Your feet should be admired.
6. Carriage, posture, walking. Acquiring grace and ease.
7. Do you sit correctly?
8. What you should weigh.
9. Table of Average Weights.
10. If you are fat, how to reduce safely, easily.
11. If you are thin, putting on weight.
12. Does one have to exercise?
13. Assuring personal cleanliness and hygiene; check list.
14. Take care of your teeth.
15. How much sleep do you need?
16. She Walks in Beauty.
17. When is a girl smartly dressed? Knows her type—never overdressed—never conscious of clothes—yet with certain verve and dash.
18. How to effect certain optical illusions to appear taller or shorter, thinner or rounder.
19. If you are very short, here is what you can do; fabrics, colors, types and clothes to wear; accessories. Actions and manners, too.
20. How to dress if you are very tall.
21. If you are stout, besides trying to lose weight, here's what else to do and not to do. Don't wear tight clothes, tiny hats, small things. Here are best colors, fabrics, styles for you!
22. The normal figure woman; how to select the most becoming clothes; What goes with what.
23. Building your wardrobe, plan—don't plunge. Building around what you need most, adding endless variety.
24. Accessories are important relating to several costumes.
25. Six rules for being well-groomed.
26. What men don't like in women's clothes or grooming.
27. How to achieve that well-dressed appearance that makes people notice you.

SECTION II—WHAT TO DO TO IMPROVE YOUR RELATIONS WITH OTHERS.

28. How to meet people in cordial and poised manner—when to shake hands, what to say.
29. What a smile can do; laughter.
30. Adding interest to your voice.
31. Looking at other people with open mind.
32. Your troubles are your own; don't spread your woes.
33. The art of conversation. Don't be a tangent talker, omit the terrible details; brevity still soul of wit.
34. Nothing duller than walking encyclopedia; insert own opinions and ideas; avoid useless chatter.
35. How to be interesting talker.
36. Listen with mind as well as ears.
37. Do people like you—more as time goes on?
38. How to overcome shyness and self-consciousness.
39. How to develop physical and mental appeal.
40. Having a good time at a party.
41. When dining out, two or a crowd, formal or casual.
42. How are your telephone manners?
43. Write the sort of letters you would like to receive.
44. Shopping, pleasure or ordeal?
45. Manners and clothes of yesterday compared to those of today.
46. Don't be a martyr-type; out of fashion to enjoy poor health, or sacrifice life for children, parents, etc.
47. The wishy-washy dear is burden to herself and others; let people know your likes and dislikes.
48. How to handle the question of money matters.
49. Help, help, what's the answer? Should you let prospective beau take you to 35c theatre seats or to orchestra only? Does he fail to bring flowers because he is stingy, thoughtless or impoverished? When he asks you where to go, should you name a tea room or an expensive supper club? When he asks you what you want for a gift, should you say, "nothing" or "Guerlain's Perfume"? etc., etc.
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